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Klitshcko hangs up his gloves

See page 14

Trade war with U.S. holding up WTO membership, minister says

PM concerned Russia may block Ukraine if it enters first

(RFE/RL/Ukrainian Journal)— Economy Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk said on the ICTV channel on Nov. 4 that Ukraine is engaged in a "trade war" with the United States and this is holding up its accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

"I would like to reject the accusation that the government is in a rush to join the WTO," Yatsenyuk said.

"If we really were in a rush, we would have signed a protocol [on mutual access to commodity and service markets] with the U.S. long ago. We are engaged in an extremely tough trade war with the U.S. — in defense of our own economic interests, while the U.S. is defending its interests."

Yatsenyuk said Ukraine has refused to eliminate customs duties on scrap metal and has rejected proposed conditions for agricultural support. "We are in a deadlock today, and that's why we have not joined the WTO," he added.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said in a radio address on Nov. 5 that he remains optimistic about Ukraine's chances of joining the WTO this year, but added that Ukrainians "should be frank" on this issue.

"The answer to the question of whether Ukraine will be a WTO member in 2005 depends much on our partners and bureaucratic procedures," Yushchenko said.

According to Yushchenko, Ukraine's WTO membership would result in many benefits to the country's economy.

These benefits, Yushchenko went on, include the prevention of up to $8 billion worth of annual losses in trade because of antidumping investigations against Ukraine in various countries as well as a 10 percent increase in trade and a 1.9 percent increase in gross domestic product (GDP) annually after WTO accession.

"If we join the WTO, we will retain existing jobs and will create thousands of new ones," Yushchenko said.

Nov. 3 Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov said Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization will be virtually impossible if Russia joins the organization first.

Yekhanurov made the comments on the final day of a two-day visit to Washington to seek U.S. backing for his country's bid to join the WTO.

Russia plans to join the WTO in 2006, while Ukraine wants to join by the end of this year.

Yekhanurov was quoted as saying Ukraine is concerned that if Russia joins while Ukraine's bid lags behind, Moscow would use its influence to keep its western neighbor out.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said on Nov. 3 that Moscow is "perplexed" by Yekhanurov's comments.

Spokesman Mikhail Kamynin, in comments posted on the ministry's website, said such an approach "is absolutely unacceptable" to Moscow.

He said Russia has "never set" itself the goal of hindering Ukraine's WTO accession.

He said coordinating positions on WTO accession would benefit both Russia and Ukraine.

Cont. on P. 5

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Leaps along the Pathways to Hopak

Jayleen Gordey and Markian Bahniuk leap through the air during a performance of "Pathways to Hopak — The Celebration of a Life Worth Living", which premiered at Shumka's "Red Boots Ballet and Bubbly" 6th Annual Fundraising Gala, held at the newly renovated Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton, Nov. 5. For more see Page 9 of this issue.

Тимошенко готова співпрацювати з Ющенком… але після перемоги на виборах

(ForUm)—Колишній прем'єр-міністр України, лідер партії «Батьківщина» Юлія Тимошенко заявляє про необхідність відновлення співпраці з Президентом України Віктором Ющенком, але після парламентських виборів 2006 року

"Я впевнена в тому, що ми повинні з Президентом Ющенком відновити нашу єдність", - заявила експрем'єр-міністр України в інтерв'ю радіостанції «Німецька хвиля», 3-го листопада.

Лідер «Батьківщини» і Блоку Юлії Тимошенко (БЮТ) також наголосила, що "зробити це можна буде в разі перемоги нашої політичної сили на парламентських виборах і нового об'єднання з Віктором Ющенком, за винятком тих людей, які публічно звинувачувалися в корупції в його команді, в його оточенні".

"Я як була, так і залишаюся абсолютною опорою і підтримкою Президента Ющенка і хочу, щоб наша єдність відновилася відразу після виборів на базі створення єдиного блоку в новому парламенті", - заявила Тимошенко.

Вона також висловила упевненість в тому, що, саме її політичний блок сформує наступний уряд, наголосивши, що її команда після виборів має намір претендувати на пост прем'єр-міністра, інформує «Інтерфакс-Україна».

Лідер БЮТ вважає, що майбутні вибори на Верховну Раду, як і торішні президентські вибори, будуть знаковими і визначать напрямок розвитку України.

"Парламентські вибори знову представлять віч-на-віч представників двох світоглядів, двох бачень того, як повинна розвиватися Україна. З одного боку, стоятиме Віктор Янукович, але тепер з другого боку проти Януковича стоятиму я, оскільки крім мене на цьому полі конкурувати з Януковичем більше ніхто не зможе", - наголосила Тимошенко.

На її думку, головним чинником, який гальмує розвиток України, є корупція. "Люди, які прийшли до влади після "оранжевої революції", сьогодні випробовуються на здатність протистояти колосальним корупційним пропозиціям", - зауважила вона. "Як тільки ми прийшли до влади, наприклад в справі "Криворіжсталі", ходили пропозиції хабарів до трьохсот мільйонів доларів за те, щоб не виставляти КМК на конкурс, а просто його дооцінити в закритому режимі. Іноді хабарі досягають сотень мільйонів доларів і треба мати колосальну силу духу, щоб протистояти таким пропозиціям", - додала Тимошенко.

Ющенко звільнив двох губернаторів

(Українська правда/Інтерфакс-Україна)—8-го листопада Президент Віктор Ющенко звільнив голів Запорізької обласної державної адміністрації Юрія Артеменка і Луганської обладміністрації Олексія Данилова.

Відповідні укази розміщено на сайті президента.

Раніше про це повідомила в інтерв'ю з журналістами прес-секретар президента Ірина Геращенко у Києві.

"Президент України підписав укази про звільнення голів Запорізької і Луганської областей у зв'язку з переходом на іншу роботу. Панові Артеменку і панові Данилову будуть запропоновані інші посади у виконавчій владі", - сказала вона.

За словами Геращенко, напередодні з цими керівниками обладміністрацій була проведена бесіда в Кабінеті міністрів і секретаріаті президента.

"З ними погоджено те, що вони переходять на іншу роботу у виконавчій владі. Їм подякували за проведену роботу", - повідомила вона, додавши: "Ці кадрові ротації робляться з метою підвищення ефективності роботи влади".

Артеменко і Данилов були призначені головами регіонів 4 лютого цього року.

Артеменко до цього призначення був депутатом (фракція "Наша Україна"), заступником голови парламентського комітету зі свободи слова й інформації. Данилов заступник директора Інституту європейської інтеграції і розвитку, заступник голови партії "Яблуко".

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Зінченка вже запросили у Блок Юлії Тимошенко

(ForUm)—Лідер Партії Патріотичних сил України Олександр Зінченко вже отримав пропозицію увійти до першої п'ятірки виборчого списку Блоку Юлії Тимошенко.

Про це він повідомив 8–го листопада на прес-конференції в Чернівцях, відповідаючи на запитання: "Якою б Ви хотіли бачити першу п'ятірку списку БЮТ".

За словами Зінченка, "я не хочу грати на випередження, а хочу лише сказати, що, за зрозумілими обставинами, в п'ятірці першим номером буде Юлія Тимошенко. Це навіть не дискусія, якщо це Блок Юлії Тимошенко. Далі йдуть декілька чоловік, і я не хочу розставляти їх за рангами – це і Микола Томенко, Олександр Турчинов, тут місце пропонують і мені".

Як сказав Зінченко, для нього особисто не дуже важливо, який учасник буде під яким номером. "Сьогодні важливо, чим після виборів займатиметься політик, а не з яким номером він сидітиме і на якому місці. Це абсолютно відверто", додав лідер ППСУ, передає «УНІАН».

На його думку, на з'їзді БЮТ, який пройде 3 грудня, буде "цікава кількість людей, де вистачатиме їх і в "десятки", і в "двадцятки", і в "тридцятки". "Я не хочу нікого кривдити, там є і академіки, робочі і народні депутати."

Як повідомлялося, Партія патріотичних сил України на чолі з Олександром Зінченком має намір взяти участь у парламентських виборах-2006 в Блоці Юлії Тимошенко.

УНП не блокуватиметься ані з НСНУ, ані з БЮТ

(Кореспондент.net/ЛІГАБізнесІнформ)—Українська народна партія (УНП) не блокуватиметься ні з «Народним Союзом «Наша Україна», ні з блоком Юлії Тимошенко на парламентських виборах – 2006.

УНП готова іти на вибори самостійно, сформувавши блок з партіями, громадськими організаціями та молодіжними організаціями правоцентристського спрямування, які на сьогодні виявили ініціативу до спільної з УНП участі у виборах – 2006 року. Таке рішення прийняв центральний провід Української народної партії.

«Фактично, Українська народна партія залишилася єдиною правоцентристською партією, яка може піти на вибори 2006 року самостійно, не асимілюючись у ліберальних за своєю ідеологією блоках – НСНУ чи БЮТ. На мою думку, у 2006 році українці повинні мати право обирати не лише ліве, ліберальне, ліворадикальне чи праворадикальне, але і правоцентристське спрямування розвитку країни. Тому ми готові підтримати ініціативу тих ідеологічно близьких до УНП сил, які розділяють таку точку зору», - сказав лідер УНП Юрій Костенко.

Про це повідомили у прес-службі партії 6–го листопада.

У найближчі дні Костенку доручили провести переговори про створення блоку національно-демократичних сил. Його рекомендовано назвати «Український народний блок». Кінцевий склад учасників блоку буде оголошено на початку грудня.

Саме такий формат участі УНП у виборах-2006 буде розповсюджений і на виборах до місцевих органів влади.

Мороз визначив свою першу п'ятірку і збирає промисловців

(Українська правда)—Соціалістична партія має намір включити в прохідну частину свого виборчого списку великих промисловців.

Про це пише газета "Дело" з посиланням на главу політради Соцпартії Йосипа Вінського.

За його словами, СПУ має намір сформувати дуже серйозне промислове лобі у Верховній Раді із соціалістів, що працюють зараз менеджерами великих державних і приватних підприємств.

Запрошення в партійний список вже одержали керівники Маріупольського меткомбінату ім. Ілліча Володимир Бойко і Сергій Матвієнков, генеральний директор Харківського "Турбоатома" Анатолій Бугаєць, керівники ЗАТ "Сіверодонецьке об'єднання "Азот" і Комсомольського ГЗК.

"Причина, за якою ми вирішили йти на вибори із СПУ – це соціальна спрямованість партії. У нас на підприємстві людин у центрі уваги, і головне для нас – це соціальний захист людей", – заявив в інтерв'ю "Делу" Матвієнков.

У парламент нинішнього скликання Матвієнков пройшов по мажоритарному округу, однак зараз він говорить, що рішення брати участь у виборах у складі партійного списку СПУ не було прямим наслідком переходу на пропорційну систему виборів, відзначає газета.

"Перш ніж прийняти рішення, ми розглядали багато партій, але зрозуміли, що саме СПУ відповідає нашій ідеології", – заявив він.

Почесний глава правління Маріупольського металургійного комбінату Володимир Бойко про своє рішення брати участь у парламентських виборах у складі СПУ оголосив під час свого виступу на зборах трудового колективу комбінату ще два тижні тому. Бойко заявив, що представляє "партію іллічівців", і тому відкидав усі пропозиції від різних політичних сил із приводу виборів, але позиція соціалістів ідеологічно близька його колективу.

Вінський заявив, що партійний список СПУ в цілому вже сформований. У першу п'ятірку увійдуть соціалісти, які сьогодні займають міністерські посади. Крім того, парламентська фракція СПУ останнім часом також поповнилася бізнесменами, що можуть стати фінансовими донорами партії.

Журналісти готові страйкувати через закон про вибори

(Українська правда)—Незалежна медіа-профспілка має намір визначитися щодо проведення загальноукраїнського страйку, а також інших форм протесту щодо закону про вибори народних депутатів.

Про це йдеться в повідомленні медіа-профспілки, переданому 1–го листопада.

"У найближчі два тижні Рада та з'їзд НМПУ мають визначитися з формами протесту профспілки щодо закону про вибори народних депутатів. Рішення про доцільність масових протестів профспілки, в тому числі і проведення загальнонаціонального страйку журналістів, вже підтримав комітет НМПУ", - йдеться у повідомленні.

Профспілка розраховуватиме на підтримку всіх своїх членів, а також інших об'єднань журналістів. Як зазначив голова НМПУ Сергій Гузь, закон про вибори однаково зашкодить усім журналістам і тому подолати спротив депутатів, що прийняли цей закон, можна лише спільними солідарними діями.

"Я також сподіваюсь, що в цьому питанні збігаються наші інтереси із власниками ЗМІ. Крім того, ми вже домовилися про підтримку журналістських протестів міжнародними об'єднаннями журналістів", - зазначив Гузь.

Як зазначається в повідомленні, позачерговий з'їзд НМПУ відбудеться 12-13 листопада.

Тиждень тому, за рішенням комітету НМПУ, до Верховної Ради України був надісланий лист з вимогою скасувати норми закону про вибори, що порушують права журналістів та Конституцію України.

З'їзд має вирішити принципове питання про проведення загальноукраїнського страйку, а також визначитися з іншими формами протесту.

"Усе залежить від того, як депутати будуть поводитися в цій ситуації, - пояснив Гузь.

"Якщо зміни до закону будуть ухвалені до 29 листопада, можливо, страйк журналістів і не відбудеться."

UCAMA appeals to community for political support

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Archives and Museum of Alberta are appealing to the community to give them political support for the project for a new building on Jasper Avenue to house its burgeoning collection.

They are urging supporters to lend their voice and contact their city councillors to back funding for the project.

"Edmonton City Council has been approached to match the $3 million committed to the Museum by the Government of Alberta earlier this year. Mayor Mandel and many city councillors are in favour of the project and are very excited about its possibilities. But we need all of city council on-side and have recently launched a community appeal for the public to demonstrate their support through a phone call, email or letter to City Council. Each voice is a powerful one," UCAMA President Khrystia Kohut told Ukrainian News.

"If the City funding doesn't come through, the project will be unnecessarily delayed but will still continue. We have approached other funding sources and will continue to do so until this historic legacy project is complete. The new Museum is something from which we will all benefit and most importantly, the history and significance of Ukrainian pioneers in Alberta will be preserved for all to see and learn from in a major facility right here in Edmonton," she added.

"In this democratic society, you have the power to preserve our past by showing your support of this wonderful resource. We realize everyone cannot contribute financially to this historic legacy project, but we can all demonstrate our support of the UCAMA building with our voices and words. This is something we don't use enough of these days... or realize the full power of," reads the appeal

Artist's conception of proposed new museum.

"Please help our community demonstrate the unity, strength and dedication reminiscent of the pioneers that laid the foundation for us. We will all benefit... and the stories of our forefathers will be preserved for all to see and learn from... in a major facility right here in Edmonton.

"Show your pride. Demonstrate your support!" it continues.

The appeal asks community members to phone or e-mail their councilors stating: "I support the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum Capital Project and hope the City of Edmonton will fund this legacy building".

Contact information for councilors is available at the city's web site <www.edmonton.ca>.

"Our Board has been very busy over the past two years," says Kohut. "Feasibility studies have been completed, business plans written, communications plan implemented, and architects contracted to plan the new facility. The province of Alberta and many individuals have demonstrated their excitement and support of the Museum through their donations, which have helped us get the project underway. But currently the project awaits further financial contributions."

UCAMA says its present home is no longer appropriate for storing and displaying its collection of important and rare Ukrainian artifacts, documents, maps and photographs.

"Not only do we have an obligation to find a suitable environment for the hundreds of textiles, costumes, implements, musical instruments, religious artifacts, folk and fine art pieces and historical documents, we need to find a place to properly display and share them. This is a history of which to be proud," says the appeal

As a solution, UCAMA acquired the Lodge Hotel and Brighton Block – Municipal Historic Resources – on Jasper Avenue's east block in 2003.

UCAMA is working with the University of Alberta's Ukrainian Folklore Centre and has invited other Ukrainian museums and organizations to be a part of it.

Edmonton consulate still hangs on Kyiv land title

(UkrNews)—The government of Canada is still waiting for the issue of the land title for the property on which the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv is located to be resolved before it can consider an application for the establishment of Ukrainian consulate in Edmonton, says Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson.

"Once those issues are resolved, we will certainly entertain an application they may make to open a consulate (in Edmonton)," Kim Girtel told Ukrainian News.

Canada bought the land on which the embassy is located in 1991.

Since Ukrainian law at the time did not allow the transfer of title, it was agreed to be done as soon as legally possible, said Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew in a letter to Edmonton-Beaumont MP David Kilgour, Dec. 6, 2004.

"Since then, local authorities in Kyiv have refused to provide clear title to the property," he added.

Yurii Nykytiuk First Secretary (Information, Public Relations and Cultural Affairs) at the Ukrainian Embassy in Ottawa told Ukrainian News the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Department has done all it can to expedite the matter, but the question of the land title is still before Kyiv City Council.

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Acting Director, Economic Immigration Unit, Alberta Economic Development
St. Andrew's Cultural Centre, 9831 - 75 Street
Topic: The Provincial Nominee Program (Expediting landed immigrant status for skilled workers)
Thursday, November 17, 2005
Cocktails: 5:30 pm, Dinner: 6:00 pm, Program: 7:00 pm Price: members $25.00, Non-members: $30.00 (Program Only: $5.00)
RSVP with the number of people attending to: Ukrainian News (488-3693), Tamara Tatuch (993-3776), or Oriana Masiuk (920-2839), by Monday, November 14.

Mark, Andreychuk honoured by Calgary UCPBA

(UkrNews)—Inky Mark, MP for Dauphin-Swan River Marquette and Saskatchewan Senator Raynell Andreychuk were honoured with special awards by the Calgary Ukrainian Professional and Business Association at a banquet, Oct. 28

While accepting the distinction before an audience of enthusiastic guests, Mark shared his award saying: "I accept this honour on behalf of all those Ukrainians who were unjustly imprisoned as enemy aliens during Canada's first national internment operations."

Several speakers took part in the evening's program. Borys Sydoruk a member of the UCPBA and Director of Special Projects for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association stated: "Inky Mark has been a stalwart champion of seeing justice done. That commitment has secured him a place on the national stage. Over one million Canadians of Ukrainian heritage are very grateful to Inky Mark, who personifies what a good man can accomplish in the Canadian political arena."

Bill C-331 is currently being considered by the Standing Committee of Canadian Heritage. After further review it is expected that C-331 will be returned to the House of Commons for a vote at 3rd reading.

Mark concluded his acceptance remarks by saying: "We must remember what happened in this country's past, to help ensure that no other ethnic, religious or racial minority ever has to suffer as the Ukrainian community did. I am confident that this issue will be resolved during this session of Parliament."

Sen. Andreychuk introduced a motion in the Senate "to recognize the Ukrainian Famine/Genocide of 1932-33 and to condemn any attempt to deny or distort this historical truth as being anything less than genocide".

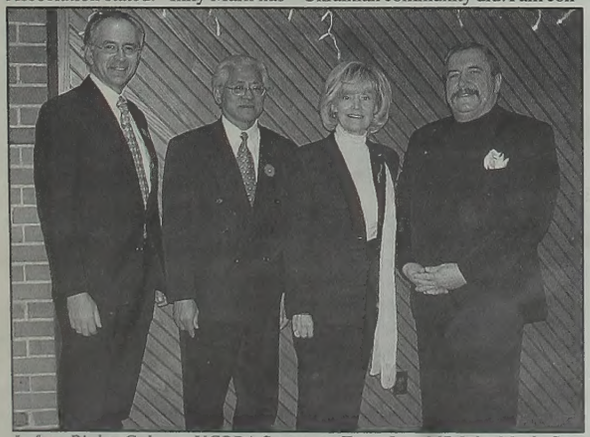
The motion, which was passed unanimously on June 19, 2003, also called upon the designation of the fourth Saturday in November of every year throughout Canada "as a day of remembrance of the more than seven million Ukrainians who fell victim to the Ukrainian Famine/Genocide of 1932-33" and called upon on "all Canadians, particularly historians, educators and parliamentarians, to include the true facts of the Ukrainian Famine/Genocide of 1932-33 in the records of Canada and in future educational material".

In her impromptu acceptance speech Andreychuk delivered an impassioned address on the Famine/Genocide as a crime against humanity and against the Ukrainian people.

Calgary's UCPBA also presented four Student Awards.

____OSVITA – Adult Academic Achievement Award went to Stephanie Lewis, the OSVITA – Youth Academic Achievement Award to Alexandra Lys, the Art Achievement Award to Katherine Lys and the Leadership Award to Stephanie Watson.

The artistic portion of the evening consisted of a performance by the Suzirya Dancers & Ukrainian Dance Theatre.



Left to Right: Calgary UCPBA Secretary Terry Lys, MP Inky Mark, Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, Calgary UCPBA President David Repetowsky.

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Тимошенко отримала нагороду в посольстві Польщі

(Українська правда)—Екс-прем'єру Юлії Тимошенко 7–го листопада в посольстві Польщі в Києві вручили нагороду "Людина року" економічного форуму в Криниці. Отримавши нагороду, Тимошенко сказала, що розцінює її як визнання вчинку українського народу, який виборов перемогу на Майдані.

"Це не стільки оцінка моїх дій, скільки тих людей, що стояли на Майдані", - зазначила вона.

Тимошенко закликала громадян України не впадати у відчай у зв'язку з останніми подіями.

"Попри бурхливий розвиток демократичних процесів в Україні, щоб у вас не склалось враження, що щось зроблено дарма (на Майдані) і втратило ціну", - попросила вона.

"Я вірю, що все було зроблено вірно і треба лише справу довести до логічного завершення", – запевнила Тимошенко.

У свою чергу представник програмної ради форуму в Криниці Зигмунт Бердиховський запевнив, що при визначенні лауреатів вони не враховують політичні обставини.

"Ми заявляли, що у своїх рішеннях є незалежними від політичного тиску і тиску ззовні, наші рішення є остаточними і не підлягають змінам", - зазначив він, коментуючи чутки про те, що Тимошенко спочатку намагалися позбавити нагороди.

Тимошенко заявила, що хоче передати нагороду для зберігання, де її побачать якнайбільше людей.

"Для зберігання ми знайдемо найбільш публічне місце. В Могилянці, наприклад, є музей помаранчевої революції, до речі, дуже добрий. Я передам нагороду в той музей, де до неї зможе підійти якнайбільше людей і відчути причетність до цієї нагороди, бо вона наша з вами спільна. Я її в жодному випадку не уособлюю", - сказала Тимошенко.

Юлія Тимошенко під час вручення їй нагороди "Людина року Центральної та Східної Європи" у Амбасаді Польщі.

Тимошенко не стала відповідати на інші запитання журналістів. Зокрема на репліку із залу, чи прийде вона на Майдан разом з Ющенком, Тимошенко відповіла: "Не можна всі новини повідомляти одразу".

Пізніше, на питання про святкування річниці Майдану, вона відповіла: "Ми визначимось таким чином, що ми будемо разом з людьми і разом з тими, хто й далі продовжує вірити в Україну. Яку форму ми оберемо, я думаю, ми порадимось і знайдемо рішення".

Медики Львівської обласної лікарні припинили акцію голодівки

(ForUm)—Медичні працівники Львівської обласної клінічної лікарні припинили акцію голодівки, повідомили в прес-службі Головного управління охорони здоров'я Львівської облдержадміністрації.

Як наголошується в повідомленні прес-служби, 4 листопада у Львові завершила роботу комісія МОЗ України, яка була створена з метою вивчення ситуації у зв'язку з акцією голодівки окремих медичних працівників Львівської обласної клінічної лікарні. До складу комісії увійшли: головний правовий інспектор ЦК Профспілки працівників охорони здоров'я України Дегтярьова, начальник головного управління охорони здоров'я Львівської ОДА Герич, голова Львівської обласної організації профспілки працівників охорони здоров'я України Білий, юрисконсульт Львівської обласної організації профспілки працівників охорони здоров'я України Панішко, повідомляє «УНІАН».

Комісія провела зустріч з членом президії Конфедерації Вільних профспілок Львівської області Готь за участю голови Всеукраїнської незалежної профспілки студентів-медиків "Здоров'я України" Грачова. Під час зустрічі сторони визнали помилковість вибраних методів і форм проведення акції протесту і ухвалили "Спільне рішення комісії МОЗ України, ГУ охорони здоров'я ЛОДА, обласної профспілки працівників охорони здоров'я з уповноваженим представником страйкарів", в якому зокрема говориться: "По суті вимоги, які були висловлені в повідомленні від 27.09.05 р., відносяться до компетенції Верховної Ради України, Президента України, Кабінету Міністрів України і можуть бути вирішені тільки на загальнодержавному, а не на місцевому рівні".

Вони також відзначили, що "неприпустимими є спроби тиску на органи державного управління, зокрема на начальника головного управління охорони здоров'я ЛОДА, для вирішення таким чином питань реформування медицини".

Сторони відзначили, що не "можуть не погодитися з необхідністю привернення на найвищому загальнодержавному рівні уваги керівництва Української держави до існуючих проблем в медицині, в першу чергу до неналежного матеріально-фінансового забезпечення медичних закладів і низької оплати праці медичних працівників. Задекларовані реформи проводяться повільно. В питаннях фінансування галузі, заробітної плати медичних працівників, їх соціального захисту існує багато проблем, які потребують негайному вирішення".

Сторони домовилися "спільними зусиллями добиватися в рамках чинного законодавства реалізації вимог найманих працівників про підвищення заробітної плати медичним і фармацевтичним працівникам не нижче середнього рівня по промисловості відповідно до пункту ж ст. 77 "Основ законодавства про охорону" здоров'я.

Як повідомлялося, 2 листопада 60 працівників Львівської обласної клінічної лікарні з пов'язками "Голодую!" з 9.00 почали безстрокову голодівку, вимагаючи підвищення заробітної плати, реформування медичної галузі і збільшення фінансування медицини.

Усі вимоги висуваються на ім'я Президента України Віктора Ющенка, крім того одним з пунктів вимог, які стосуються регіональної медицини, є відставка начальника головного управління охорони здоров'я Львівської обласної державної адміністрації Ігоря Герича у зв'язку з його, як стверджують лікарі, некомпетентністю.

Медики також вимагають від обласної влади створити комісію для вивчення фактів порушень атестаційною комісією Головного управління охорони здоров'я Львівської ОДА і забезпечити прозору кадрову політику в головному управлінні охорони здоров'я і медичних структурах Львівської області.

Україна вважає заснування ООН Дня пам'яті жертв Голокосту приводом для визнання Голодомору 1932-1933 актом геноциду

(Українські новини)—Україна вважає заснування Організацією Об'єднаних Націй Дня пам'яті жертв Голокосту приводом для визнання Голодомору в Україні 1932-1933 років актом геноциду українського народу. Про це Українським Новинам повідомила прес-служба Міністерства закордонних справ України 4–го листопада.

За її інформацією, Україна стала співавтором прийнятої на засіданні резолюції Генасамблеї, на якій був заснований Міжнародний день пам'яті жертв Голокосту 27 січня.

Постійний представник України при ООН Валерій Кучинський заявив на пленарному засіданні Генасамблеї ООН, присвяченому пам'яті жертв Холокосту, що настав час для міжнародного співтовариства визнати Голодомор актом геноциду.

"І Голокост, і Голодомор - це національні трагедії, які потребують широкого міжнародного визнання", - цитує прес-служба МЗС слова Кучинського.

Кучинський нагадав про Спільну заяву із приводу 70-ї річниці Голодомору.

Тоді Голодомор був офіційно визнаний національною трагедією українського народу, викликаною жорстокими діями й політикою тоталітарного режиму.

"Наша держава буде продовжувати робити все можливе, щоб донести правду про Голодомор цілому світу", - підкреслив Кучинський.

Як повідомляло агентство, Україна до 2007 року має намір підготувати документ про визнання Голодомору в Україні 1932-1933 років актом геноциду, який би прийняла ООН.

У листопаді 2003 року ряд держав-членів ООН підготував спільна заява, в якій назвали Голодомор в Україні 1932-1933 років результатом політики тоталітарного режиму.

У результаті Голодомору 1932-1933 років, за різними оцінками, загинули від 7 до 10 млн. чоловік.

Україна домовиться з ЄС про візи до літа?

(Українська правда/Українські новини/Інтерфакс-Україна)—Рада Європейського Союзу із загальних справ і зовнішніх відносин видала Європейській комісії мандат на проведення з Україною переговорів про спрощення візового режиму.

Про це повідомила прес-служба представництва Єврокомісії в Україні.

Планується, що вже в листопаді будуть розпочаті двосторонні переговори.

Водночас глава місії України при ЄС Роман Шпек вважає, що Україна може закінчити переговори про спрощення візового режиму з Європейським Союзом у стислий термін - до травня-червня наступного року.

"Я глибоко переконаний, що конструктивний підхід до переговорів з боку України і Європейської комісії дозволить нам найближчим часом закінчити переговори", - сказав Шпек в інтерв'ю українським журналістам 7–го листопада у Брюсселі.

"Кожна зі сторін зможе виконати свої внутрішні процедури для того, щоб під час наступного засідання Ради з питань співробітництва між Україною і ЄС ми могли б підписати цю угоду", - відзначив він.

Говорячи про можливі терміни спрощення візового режиму, глава місії відзначив, що йому "складно передбачати графік (засідань), але історія показує, що це - травень-червень".

Він пояснив, що в проекті мандата ЄК на ведення переговорів з даного питання вже були закладені основні моменти, на яких наполягає українська сторона, і цей проект схвалений. "Ми налаштовані на завершення переговорів, а не на сам процес."

Тарасюк хоче докопатися, як американці "випадково" убили українського журналіста

(Українська правда)—Міністерство закордонних справ наполягає на додатковому розслідуванні обставин загибелі українського громадянина - журналіста Тараса Процюка.

Про це заявив міністр закордонних справ Борис Тарасюк, повідомляє 8–го листопада Ліга.

За словами Тарасюка, українська сторона проінформувала американську про те, що ми не тільки зацікавлені в одержанні повної інформації щодо результатів розслідування і матеріалів справи, але і готові приєднатися до додаткового розслідування обставин загибелі Процюка.

"Родина Процюка одержала компенсацію в рамках страхування, і вона була здійснена варшавським відділенням агентства "Reuters". Виходить, питання матеріального відшкодування як страховки для родини загиблого вже здійснено", - зазначив міністр.

"У той же час, ми продовжуємо наполягати на додатковому розслідуванні", - заявив Тарасюк.

Як повідомлялося раніше, Процюк був убитий у Багдаді американським танковим снарядом 8 квітня 2003 року.

Він був працівником "Reuters", знаходився на балконі готелю "Палестина", виконуючи професійні обов'язки журналіста - знімав на камеру події в Багдаді.

За даними розслідування, проведеного Пентагоном, американська сторона вважає його загибель "нещасним випадком".

Білозір каже, що перебувала на межі між життям і смертю

(ProUA)—Екс-міністр культури Оксана Білозір каже, що перебувала на межі між життям і смертю. «Я ніколи раніше не хворіла і ніколи не вживала ліків, тому обставини мого нездужання для мене не зрозумілі», - сказала Білозір.

Білозір каже, що справді написала заяву до СБУ, в якій просить провести розслідування обставин її хвороби, оскільки початок і перебіг її викликав у неї підозри, що тут могло б бути втручання якихось зовнішніх чинників. Білозір сказала, що з мотивів слідства не може говорити про деталі розслідування, яке ще не закінчилося. Як повідомлялося раніше, СБУ проводить розслідування обставин її хвороби.

Екс-міністр культури проходила тривалий курс реабілітації і вийшла з лікарні минулої п'ятниці після «величезного курсу лікування».

Білозір повідомила, що без втручання Президента Віктора Ющенка «невідомо, як склалася б її доля і чи вижила б вона», при цьому уточнивши, що за кордон для уточнення діагнозу виїжджати не довелося. Тепер Білозір на амбулаторному лікуванні. На питання, що вона має намір робити після відставки і виписки з лікарні, Білозір сказала, що збирається зайнятися партійними справами і продовжити викладання в Київському національному університеті культури і мистецтва.

Yushchenko to decide soon whether to lead his party in March election

(Ukrainian Journal)—President Viktor Yushchenko said Nov. 6 he will decide in a week whether to formally lead his party, Our Ukraine, in the March 2006 parliamentary election, an option that may greatly boost the party's rating.

Our Ukraine, when formally led by Yushchenko, enjoys support of between 17% and 20% of respondents and has a potential of winning the vote, several opinion polls have indicated.

The same party, but led by Deputy Prime Minister Roman Bezsmertniy, Yushchenko's ally, enjoys support of between 5% and 10%, and could finish the No. 3 in the race, the polls suggested.

Yushchenko's decision is eagerly watched by analysts as it may define the shape of the future government. The winning party for the first time will be able to claim the post of the prime minister, whose powers will dramatically expand after Jan. 1, 2006.

"If my presence in a trench will contribute to forming [democratic] values, then I will be in this trench," Yushchenko said.

The comments signal that Yushchenko may re-consider the issue after suggesting last month that he had decided not to lead the party. Yushchenko has said he's not the president of a certain party, but the president of the country.

The decision to lead the party will most likely be heavily criticized by two strongest opposition groups, one led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and another led by former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Both groups, which currently enjoy support of between 17% and 20%, would have a clear edge over Bezsmertniy-led Our Ukraine and could result in either Yanukovych or Tymoshenko getting the prime minister post after the vote. Yushchenko's leading the party would seriously alter those plans, reduce their powers and would probably trigger heavy criticism from them.

"I will consider this issue no matter how many bullets or accusations are fired on me," Yushchenko said. "Democracy, the rule of law and freedom must return to this country forever. These are not the empty values for me and I know that based on these values this country will be eternal."

Should Yushchenko's Our Ukraine win the election, it would probably lead to business-friendly Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, Yushchenko's ally, retaining the post for five years.

Withdrawing troops may leave some army equipment for Iraqis

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukrainian troops, which are to withdraw from Iraq by the end of the year, may leave some of their army equipment to the Iraqi forces, Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko said Nov. 7.

The Ukrainian government is currently deciding on which equipment may be left in Iraq and which has to be shipped to Ukraine, Hrytsenko told Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari.

"Within a week Iraqi specialists will be shown the list of equipment that is being prepared for the transfer," the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

The equipment is likely to include machine guns, grenade launchers with ammunition, armored and engineering vehicles, the ministry said.

Hrytsenko arrived in Iraq on Nov. 7 for a two-day visit to meet government officials and foster close cooperation between the countries, but also to check the readiness of the 800-strong Ukrainian troops for the withdrawal.

"Within the next year governments of both countries will be working on creating a skeleton of relations and regulations for mutual cooperation," Hrytsenko was quoted by the ministry as saying.

Ukraine dispatched 1,650 troops to Iraq two years ago, the third biggest contingent of peace keeping force, but it has been gradually reducing the number of troops this year before pulling out completely by the end of December

Ukraine lost 18 soldiers in Iraq, while 36 soldiers had been wounded during the time of the peace keeping mission, the ministry said.

Al-Jaafari praised the Ukrainian troops for helping to maintain stability and rebuilding infrastructure in the Wasit province, where the troops are based.

"Soon there will be first democratic election in Iraq and the Ukrainian troops have played a big role by maintaining stability in the Wasit province," Al-Jaafari said.

Ukraine's 800 remaining troops in Iraq will be withdrawn between Dec. 20 and Dec. 30, following that country's Dec. 16 general elections, Ukrainian officials have said.

Trade war with U.S. holding up WTO membership, minister says

Cont. from P. 1

Russia had earlier expressed concerns that Ukraine would have an advantage should it join the WTO first.

The concerns from each are centered around the fact that any country seeking to join the WTO would have to clear any trade disputes it has with a WTO member, which can block the candidate's accession indefinitely.

Ukraine and Russia have a number of trade disputes that may undermine each other's chances of joining the WTO, including the most recent issue of price on natural gas.

Russia has been seeking to triple the price it plans to charge Ukraine next year, to more than $160/1,000 cu m from $50/1,000 cu m, while Ukraine had been insisting on keeping the price unchanged in 2006 and gradually increasing it later.

Yekhanurov also said that the United States may give Ukraine market-economy status in January. That's seen as an important milestone toward eventual WTO membership.

Yekhanurov met on Nov. 2 with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who he said stressed the need for transparent governance in Ukraine, further democratic reforms, and fighting corruption.

The Verkhovna Rada on Nov. 1 voted to approve overwhelmingly two bills that are part of a package needed for Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization by the end of the year.

The bills, which give domestic companies a tool to fight possible dumping practices by foreign companies, received support from 291 and 320 lawmakers in 450-seat Parliament.

EU set to grant Ukraine market economy status

(RFE/RL)—The "Financial Times" on Nov. 8 quoted a European Commission document as saying that Brussels has decided to grant Ukraine market-economy status by the end of this year or early next year.

The move, sought by Kyiv as one of its main political objectives this year, would reduce the EU's scope for imposing antidumping duties on Ukrainian imports.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko says that Ukraine's losses in trade because of antidumping investigations amount to some $8 billion annually.

The EU is Ukraine's largest trading partner, with annual trade turnover standing at $22 billion.

Ukraine concerned about Russian chemical weapons

(RFE/RL)—The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has urged Russia to make sure that it observes environmental security standards in storing chemical weapons near the Ukrainian border, Interfax-Ukraine reported on Nov. 8.

According to Kyiv, some 6,000 tons of chemical weapons are being stored in dangerous conditions in the town of Pochep in Bryansk Oblast, which is just 70 kilometers away from Sumy and Chernihiv Oblasts of Ukraine.

Kyiv asserts that the time for which the storage facilities in Pochep were designed to be safely used has almost expired.

The Moscow-based "Komsomolskaya pravda" charged last month that Kyiv uses abandoned mines in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts to store spent nuclear fuel and chemicals, thus reportedly threatening the environmental security of six Russian regions.

UN health official predicts bird-flu outbreaks in Ukraine

(RFE/RL)—A World Health Organization official says further outbreaks of bird flu are expected in Europe, and that Ukraine and Greece are the most likely to detect the virus next.

Bernardus Ganter of the WHO's European regional office spoke Nov. 1 in Copenhagen. His remarks came after Greek health officials announced on Oct. 29 that a suspected case of the most virulent strain of bird flu there proved to be false.

Ganter said Greece and Ukraine are at risk because they are on the migration routes of wild birds traveling from countries where the potentially deadly H5N1 strain has already been detected, including Croatia and Russia. H5N1 has also been found in Romania and Turkey.

Ganter said health officials need to carefully monitor bird-migration areas in order to contain the virus.

Ukraine says PM's comments on Lukashenka twisted

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine's Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk apologized on Nov. 4 for recent remarks by Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov suggesting a comparison between Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka and Adolf Hitler.

In comments during a visit to the United States earlier that week, Yekhanurov was quoted as saying that Lukashenka is a "talented propagandist," and unexpectedly adding: "Now I understand why German women in the 1930s shouted, 'I want a baby with the Fuehrer!'"

The comments were met with anger in Minsk, and Belarus's Foreign Ministry asked Ukraine for clarification. Tarasyuk was cited as saying Yekhanurov's remarks had been twisted by foreign media, and in no way implied a criticism of Belarus or its leader.

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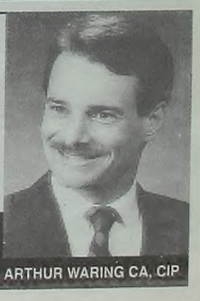
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Українські Вісті це незалежна газета, яка сама утримується із передплат, оголошень та пожертв на пресовий фонд. Просимо підтримувати нашу газету повищими джерелами. Дякуємо заздалегідь за Вашу підтримку.

CJC urges government to discriminate

The government of Canada is under considerable pressure from the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada to maintain its discriminatory citizenship legislation.

Oct. 31 in the Ottawa Citizen, Ed Morgan, national president of the Canadian Jewish Congress wrote an oped piece calling upon the government to reject the recommendations of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration entitled "Citizenship Revocation: A Question of Due Process and Respecting Charter Rights".

What Morgan is particularly concerned about is the recommendation that the citizenship revocation process be based upon the criminal standard of proof "beyond a reasonable doubt" instead of the current "balance of probabilities"

The report, which was approved by 10 out of the 12 members of the committee, clearly states that this standard must be applied in order to give naturalized Canadians the legal protections of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms — specifically sections 7 to 14.

Anything less creates two classes of citizenship — one for those born in Canada — and another for the 6 million naturalized Canadians.

Morgan argues that "civil revocation cases are not criminal proceedings and the proposed higher evidentiary threshold is inappropriate and unnecessary".

However, in that very same article he very loosely throws around terms like "war criminals" and "Hitler's henchmen" to describe four Second World War cases, (not coincidentally, either ethnic Ukrainians or of Ukrainian geographic origin) who were found guilty "on a balance of probabilities" of having lied upon coming to Canada over 50 years ago.

What Morgan most conveniently omits is that in none of these cases was there any evidence of any individual war crimes proven.

The whole problem with the current citizenship legislation is that it has been used by the government to persecute Ukrainian Canadians and other people of East European origin, without having to provide any evidence of any war crimes whatsoever, nor even bother charging the individuals with any crimes.

But that's exactly what the CJC and B'nai Brith want.

So, today it's Ukrainians, tomorrow it's Arabs and other Muslims, the day after tomorrow — who knows?

It's precisely because the Charter rights of 6 million naturalized Canadians are at risk that the committee made its recommendations.

It should be noted that the recommendations were approved by all the opposition members as well as the majority of the Liberals on the committee, and received unanimous concurrence from all those members of the House of Common present when the report was presented on June 16.

Collectively they represent a huge majority of the Canadian population.

Arrayed against this massive representation of Canadians at large are two (albeit powerful) lobby groups who collectively represent less than 01.2 per cent of Canada's population.

But they do have friends in high places. The two ministers directly responsible for revocation cases have very close ties to the CJC. Justice Minister Irwin Cotler served as the CJC's chief counsel during the Deschenes Commission on War Crimes hearings, while his assistant at that time, Jack Silverstone, now works as executive assistant for Citizenship and Immigration Minister Joe Volpe.

One has to wonder how two ministers with such a vested interest in these cases got to these positions?

One also has to fear that the current discriminatory legislation will not be corrected if the minister in charge of introducing new legislation has such close ties with these vested interests.

But it is up to the prime minister and the rest of the governing caucus to take a stand. They must respect the Charter rights of all Canadians and not bow to the vested interests of a miniscule (in terms of population) minority.

New prosecutor pledges to rise above politics

By Oleg Varfolomeyev

(Jamestown Foundation) — Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has replaced Prosecutor-General Sviatoslav Piskun with Oleksandr Medvedko. Piskun was too close to former prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who is set to be Yushchenko's most dangerous rival in the parliamentary election next March. Furthermore, Piskun failed to solve a single major crime ascribed to the regime of former president Leonid Kuchma. Piskun's successor, Medvedko, may be the ideal choice for Yushchenko at the moment. He is ostensibly apolitical. Also, he worked in Donetsk Region for 20 years, so he may be privy to many secrets of the "Donetsk clan," which has been a hard nut to crack for Kyiv investigators since the Orange Revolution.

Yushchenko fired Piskun on Oct. 14, then on Oct. 26, Piskun sued Yushchenko hoping that the courts would reinstate him. There had been a precedent: during the Orange Revolution last year, a court in Kyiv ruled that then-President Leonid Kuchma had dismissed Piskun illegally in 2003, and Piskun triumphantly returned to the Prosecutor-General's Office, which he had headed in 2002-2003. But Ukrainian courts are often guided by political necessity rather than precedent, and it is the president's constitutional right to dismiss the top prosecutor. Piskun's chances of returning to the Prosecutor-General's Office look pretty slim.

On Oct. 31 Yushchenko asked parliament to approve Medvedko as new prosecutor-general, which it did on Nov. 3, by 303 ballots, far more than the 226 needed. Five out of the Ukrainian parliament's 15 factions refused to back Medvedko. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc was expected to disapprove of Medvedko, as Tymoshenko disagreed with Piskun's dismissal from the start, and apparently still hopes for his reinstatement. Her bloc's allies — United Ukraine and Reforms and Order — predictably supported her.

The otherwise pro-Yushchenko Ukrainian People's Party refused to back Medvedko because, according to the influential *Zerkalo nedeli*, they took offense at Yushchenko for not picking their man — Volodymyr Moysyk — for prosecutor-general, as Yushchenko had initially planned. And the Socialists said they did not back Medvedko because they were not convinced by his previous performance. Medvedko reportedly took part in investigating several sensational murders, including those of Donetsk MP Yevhen Shcherban in 1996, former central bank chairman Vadym Hetman in 1998, Kyiv journalist Heorhiy Gongadze in 2000, and Donetsk journalist Ihor Alexandrov in 2001. None of those crimes has been properly solved.

Medvedko's participation in the investigation into Alexandrov's murder is his weakest point. *Segodnya* has quoted Henadiy Vasylyev, who was prosecutor-general in 2003-2004, as saying that he dismissed Medvedko from the post of deputy prosecutor-general in 2003 for botching that investigation. And the muckraking Obkom website claimed that Medvedko was the author of a theory that initially led the Alexandrov case nowhere; a vagrant was indicted, later found innocent, and then died under mysterious circumstances. Eventually a Donetsk Region-based businessman with criminal links was charged with commissioning Alexandrov's assassination.

But Yushchenko pins his hopes on Medvedko. Meeting him after the voting in parliament, Yushchenko instructed Medvedko to properly investigate the Gongadze murder and to look into the allegations of vote rigging during last year's presidential election. He also asked Medvedko to scrupulously investigate his own September 2004 poisoning, which is still a puzzle.

Unlike Potebenko — and Medvedko apparently positions himself as his polar opposite — Medvedko does not hurry with promises. Meeting parliamentary faction leaders prior to the voting, he cautiously remarked that the Prosecutor-General's Office would do what is needed to solve high-profile cases within a legal framework. Asked about the Gongadze case, which Piskun had pledged to solve quickly, Medvedko limited himself to saying he "very much hopes for a positive result." What Medvedko has promised is being apolitical, impartial, and restrained in public statements, qualities that Piskun lacked. The Prosecutor-General's Office "should not share its theories with the public; instead, it should inform the public about results," Proua website quoted Medvedko as telling the deputies.

It may not be easy for Medvedko to be apolitical. Too many factors link him to Donetsk, which is home to Yushchenko's key political opponents — the Party of Regions of his election rival Viktor Yanukovych. Medvedko worked in top prosecutorial positions in Donetsk and neighboring Luhansk from 1980 till 2002, when Piskun picked him for the post of his deputy. To all appearances, the Donetsk team does not particularly like Medvedko, who must have been a first-hand witness to the emergence of the "Donetsk clan." In 2003, Prosecutor-General Vasylyev, who used to be Donetsk chief prosecutor, fired him from the Prosecutor-General's Office. And the Regions parliamentary faction did not want to vote in Medvedko's favor till the very last moment. They changed their minds, reportedly, after they were promised some concessions, and when it became clear that Medvedko would be approved anyway. It remains to be seen what those concession are.

Pro-Kuchma parties in disarray ahead of elections

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation) — Although the main story in Ukrainian politics this fall has been the rift in the Orange Revolutionary camp, the centrists that once gathered around former president Leonid Kuchma are far more divided. Most of them will have a hard time winning seats in the 2006 parliament.

Two of Ukraine's three centrist parties, representing the largest of the three oligarchic parties, have decided not to create election blocs and instead contest the 2006 elections alone. The Social Democratic Party - United (SDPUo) and Regions of Ukraine (RU) will both run independent campaigns in 2006.

The SDPUo ran independently in both the 1998 and 2002 elections, obtaining 4% and 6% respectively. With current ratings of only 1%, it is unlikely to win a seat in 2006.

Regions of Ukraine's first election was in 2002, when it ran as a member of the pro-Kuchma "For a United Ukraine" bloc. In June 2005 it floated the idea of creating a bloc named after its leader, Viktor Yanukovych, which became saddled with the unfortunate slang abbreviation "Blya" (Blok Yanukovych).

Two new parties could have joined "Blya": New Democracy, led by former Kharkiv governor Yevhen Kushnariov, and Derzhava, led by former prosecutor Hennadiy Vasyliev. A third possible member of "Blya" would have been the Progressive Socialists.

The third centrist party, Labor Ukraine (TU), is no longer a political force. Its dismal 1% rating is now divided between two quarrelling wings of TU led by Valeriy Konovaliuk and Volodymyr Sivkovych. TU split over how to relate to the Orange Revolution. Konovaliuk sought to modernize TU by permitting some cooperation with the administration of President Viktor Yushchenko, while Sivkovych lobbied for the TU to join the hard-line anti-Yushchenko opposition.

Why have the centrists turned on each other?

All along, the centrists were united only by their allegiance to Kuchma, not by any common ideological bonds. This tenuous connection mirrors the lack of real unity in the Orange Revolutionary camp, which united nationalists, anarchists, liberals, businessmen, and Socialists against Kuchma and Yanukovych. After Yushchenko won, there was no common enemy to bind the coalition together.

According to SDPUo leader Viktor Medvedchuk, one of the main differences between his party and Regions of Ukraine is that the RU faction signed the parliamentary agreement with President Yushchenko, a step the SDPUo refused to undertake.

Medvedchuk also complained that, because the SDPUo had backed Yanukovych's candidacy in the 2004 elections, voters continue to confuse the SDPUo and RU as "one team."

Medvedchuk's argued unconvincingly that the SDPUo, "upholds a contemporary social-democratic ideology," while Regions of Ukraine uses the slogan, "Strong regions — strong state." In reality, both parties are ideologically amorphous and the Socialist International even rejected the SDPUo's membership on the grounds that it was not a real social-democratic party.

Ironically, Regions of Ukraine is no longer a pro-Kuchma party. Defeated presidential candidate Yanukovych is now hostile to Kuchma, believing he betrayed and embarrassed him in the second round of the 2004 elections. Yanukovych lobbied throughout the first week of the Orange Revolution for Kuchma to launch a violent crackdown to confirm the official result of himself elected as president. But, Kuchma refused, instead calling for fresh elections without Yushchenko or Yanukovych where he could have stood as a candidate. RU's initial distrust of Kuchma and

Azerbaijani-Ukrainian relations deteriorate after stolen elections

By Taras Kuzio

(Jamestown Foundation)—Ukraine has followed the lead of the OSCE in not recognizing the official results of Azerbaijan's Nov. 6 parliamentary elections. A Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "We support the earlier conclusions of the OSCE observer mission on this question and are awaiting the final verdict of the [OSCE] mission".

The Pora youth NGO also issued a sharp condemnation of the election that concurred with the OSCE and the Yushchenko administration. But Pora demanded a sharper response from the Ukrainian authorities. A representative of the Azeri opposition bloc Azadliq attended the Pora press conference.

Ukraine's official position is to support a non-violent resolution of the situation in Azerbaijan, the use of legal means to resolve conflicting election issues, and for the Azerbaijani state to uphold human rights. These positions flow from Ukraine's Orange Revolution and the resolution of that crisis through parliament, the Supreme Court, and internationally brokered roundtable negotiations. Ukraine's Orange Revolution has become an inspiration for opposition groups in authoritarian regimes. President Viktor Yushchenko told the BBC that his country has "set a good example for the millions of people who still cherish freedom and democracy".

Ukraine's support for the OSCE election-monitoring process is a new phenomenon since Yushchenko's election. Like Moldova and Georgia, Ukraine has pulled out of the Russian-backed Commonwealth of Independent States Election Observer Mission (CIS EOM) that unfailingly rules every election in the CIS — including the latest in Azerbaijan — to have been held in a "free and fair" manner.

Ukraine's shift brings it closer to Georgia, and Kyiv and Tbilisi have together created a "Community of Democratic Choice" that is envisioned as stretching from the Baltic through the Black to the Caspian Seas. The Community is meant to back up the Bush administration's drive to spread democracy abroad. Since 1997 Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Moldova have formed the GUAM regional group. Uzbekistan joined in 1999 (making it GUUAM) only to pull out this year because it does not uphold democratic values. Should Azerbaijan now follow suit, GUAM could very well shrink to GUM.

Ukraine's relations with the incumbent regime in Azerbaijan are likely to deteriorate after this election. Baku apparently considers Ukrainian youth linked to the Pora (It's Time) group as a threat, judging by recent deportations and arrests. Following the Orange Revolution the Pora NGO created a political party to contest Ukraine's parliamentary elections and an activist center to export their election skills across the CIS. Perhaps fearing a repeat scenario, Azerbaijani officials deported Pora leaders and activists before and during the elections. In September the Azeri authorities deported Serhiy Yevtushenko, a high-ranking Pora leader who is also an adviser to Ukraine's Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk.

Ukraine and Azerbaijan also came into dispute over Rasul Guliyev, a leader of the Azerbaijani political opposition attempting to return to Azerbaijan after living in exile in the United States.□ Guliyev was briefly arrested in the Crimean capital, Simferopol, on Oct. 17 and then allowed to return to the United Kingdom. Baku had hoped Kyiv would deport him to Azerbaijan where he is wanted on corruption charges.

Azerbaijan also deported Pora activists who had traveled to Azerbaijan to act as election observers. These representatives included a senior leader of the Pora party, Yevhen Zolotariov, and Serhiy Taran, head of the Kyiv-based Institute for Mass Media, Ukraine's representation for the international watchdog Reporters Without Frontiers.

Leaders in Belarus are also on guard against a potential Orange Revolution inside their borders. Taran had just returned from a conference at the Washington-based U.S. Institute of Peace where lessons from the Georgian and Ukrainian revolutions were discussed. The second day of the conference investigated whether non-violent resistance could take place in Belarus, set to hold an election in 2006 where President Alexander Lukashenka hopes to win a third term.

For the first time, this year Ukraine's UN representatives have sided with the United States in denouncing the human rights situation inside Belarus. Worse still for Belarus is the comparison of the Lukashenka and Nazi regimes made by Ukrainian Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov at a November meeting at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Belarus and Russia protested the comparison.

Five Pora and 14 Russian youth activists were arrested in Minsk on April 26 for taking part in an opposition rally. The Russians were quickly released, but the Ukrainians were imprisoned until the following month.□ One of the arrested was Giorgi Kandelaki, an adviser to Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, who attended the same U.S. Institute of Peace seminars as Pora activist Taran.

In August, Georgian Kmara activists were arrested in Minsk and deported. The Belarusian KGB accused them of making "contacts with representatives of radical, politicized unregistered structures, such as Zubr, the Youth Front, and Limon, and holding a number of training seminars on the organization of civil-disobedience actions accompanied by mass unrest, similar to those during the colored revolution in Georgia".

The OSCE, U.S., and Ukrainian condemnations of Azerbaijan's elections place Baku in a difficult position. After the United States and EU condemned Uzbekistan's massacre of civilian protestors in May in Andijan, Uzbekistan re-oriented toward Russia. Azerbaijan's leaders do not want to follow Uzbekistan's lead, but neither do they seem able to play by the new democratic rules. GUAM is likely either to lose Azerbaijan's membership or become marginalized as the Community of Democratic Choice takes its place as the preeminent regional structure.

Are communists looking to a new "Eurasian" empire?

By Jan Maksymiuk

(RFE/RL)—An estimated crowd of 10,000 people took part in an antigovernment picket in front of the government's headquarters in Kyiv on Nov. 7. The picket, as well as a somewhat smaller rally on Independence Square shortly before it, was organized by the Communist Party of Ukraine to commemorate the 88th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution in Russia.

In 2000, the tradition of celebrating Revolution Day on Nov. 7 ended when it ceased to be a state holiday in Ukraine, but Ukrainian communists and other leftists continue to mark the date with street demonstrations every year. Such rallies are usually attended by older people and pensioners; that is, by those Ukrainians who harbor nostalgia for the Soviet era and routinely vote for forces that pledge to reestablish the former Soviet superpower in one form or another, be it a hypothetical union of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus or the proclaimed Single Economic Space that involves these three predominantly Slavic countries plus Kazakhstan.

This year, the attendance at October Revolution rallies in Ukraine was hardly better than in previous years. Apart from the 10,000-strong demonstration in Kyiv, there was only one more major rally in Mykolayiv in southern Ukraine, which attracted some 5,000 people. The attendance at Nov. 7 demonstrations in other Ukrainian cities was reportedly quite low: Kirovohrad — 1,000 people, Odesa — 1,000, Simferopol — 1,000, Dnipropetrovsk — 600, Sumy — 500, and Sevastopol — 400.

This is a rather puzzling fact, for at least two reasons. First, Ukraine is on the eve of a major campaign for the March 2006 parliamentary elections. The Communist Party of Ukraine, which earlier this year formed the so-called Left-Wing Front as an election coalition for 2006, could seemingly use its rallies on the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution as a test as well as propagandistic confirmation of its political readiness to enter the parliamentary campaign as a meaningful force. Judging by what actually took place this Nov. 7, the Communists continue to remain a minor political player in Ukraine.

Second, this Nov. 7 Ukrainian left-wingers had a unique chance to hurl all of their repertoire of political and socioeconomic criticism at a single and clear-cut target — President Viktor Yushchenko and his government. To them, Yushchenko embodies all the evils that have plagued Ukraine since its independence in 1991. To name just a few points of this repertoire — Yushchenko is a pro-Western politician and wants Ukraine to be integrated with the West in the World Trade Organization, NATO, and the EU; Yushchenko is a nationalist and anti-Russian politician; Yushchenko is an oligarch and wants to sell Ukrainian national assets to either Western economic moguls or Ukrainian oligarchs of his own ilk. In short, President Yushchenko is a much better target for leftist criticism on Nov. 7 than his predecessor, Leonid Kuchma, was in the past decade.

As should be expected, Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko listed all these points regarding Yushchenko in his speech on Independence Square in Kyiv, and they were voiced in different variations by local communist leaders in other Ukrainian cities. But the general impression of Ukrainian media and commentators was that this year's October Revolution commemorations were sluggish and uninspiring for adherents of the communist ideology in Ukraine, despite the fact that the country is now governed by combatants and followers of the "nationalistic" and "anti-Russian" Orange Revolution. This may be a signal that Ukraine's communists and leftists, in general, need a new political agenda or new leaders — or both.

There also is no unity or solidarity among Ukrainian leftist forces regarding the celebrations of Revolution Day. The Socialist Party of Oleksandr Moroz was conspicuously absent from Kyiv streets on Nov. 7. The party has several ministers in the government, so it probably decided to stay away from what promised to be an antigovernment public event. And Communist Party followers prevented the Progressive Socialist Party of Natalya Vitrenko — a no less fierce opponent of President Yushchenko than Symonenko — from laying flowers at the only remaining monument to Vladimir Lenin in Kyiv. The Communists consider the Progressive Socialists to be sidekicks of the Donetsk oligarchic clan, whose political arm is the Party of Regions led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych.

What was actually new during the Nov. 7 rally and picket in Kyiv was the appearance of a relatively new group called the Eurasian Youth Union of Ukraine, which was represented by two dozen young Ukrainians. The organization is an apparent branch of the International Eurasian Movement, which is sponsored by some forces in Russia as a "Eurasian" response to what they see as the onslaught of Western "Atlanticism" on Russia and its post-Soviet neighbors, including Ukraine. Members of the Eurasian Youth Union of Ukraine busied themselves in Kyiv on Nov. 7 by throwing rotten oranges at government building, and police reportedly arrested nearly all of them in the process. It is difficult to say whether in the future this group will be able to pose a more serious treat to the Yushchenko government than Nov. 7. However, its emergence seems to be emblematic, and those trying to rebuild a "Eurasian" empire have not yet run short of initiatives, supporters, or money.

Pro-Kuchma parties in disarray

Medvedchuk, it believes, was proven correct.

During his decade in office, Kuchma granted the ruling elites in Donetsk, the RU's base, de facto autonomy. They were only reluctantly brought into Kyiv politics by Kuchma in 2002 when Yanukovych was made prime minister and, two years later, heir apparent. They invested sizeable financial resources in the 2004 elections. The RU and the SDPUo are therefore also divided over the Kuchma era, with Medvedchuk giving it a positive spin while Yanukovych is now critical.

Ukrainian polls continue to point to only six parties and blocs being elected to the 2006 parliament. These six will compete in three groups for voters.

The Yulia Tymoshenko bloc will compete with Yushchenko's People's Union-Our Ukraine for the mantle of the Orange Revolution. RU will compete with the Communists for uneducated voters and pensioners in eastern Ukraine. The Socialist Party and parliamentary speaker Volodymyr Lytvyn's bloc will compete for the rural vote in central and southern Ukraine.

The Orange Revolutionary camp is likely to re-unite after the 2006 elections to create a pro-Yushchenko majority that may include the Lytvyn bloc and the Socialists. Centrists, on the other hand, will only be represented by Regions of Ukraine, as other formerly influential pro-Kuchma parties will fail to enter parliament.

European Court rules in favor of Myroslava Gongadze

(RFE/RL)—The European Court of Human Rights has ruled in favor of Myroslava Gongadze, the widow of slain Ukrainian opposition journalist Heorhiy Gongadze, against Ukrainian authorities.

Myroslava Gongadze accuses the authorities of failing to protect the life of her husband, who was assassinated in 2000, and to come up with an effective inquiry into his death.

The Strasbourg-based court on Nov. 8 ruled that Ukrainian authorities failed to protect Heorhiy Gongadze's life, failed to investigate his death, treated Myroslava Gongadze in an inhuman and degrading manner, and in the absence of effective criminal investigation, prevented her from receiving compensation.

The court awarded Myroslava Gongadze, who fled to the United States after her husband's death, 100,000 euros in damages.

Ukraine has three months to appeal the decision.

Myroslava Gongadze

PHOTO — ROMAN FEDORIW

Verkhovyna Choir performs at "Sviato Pokrovy".

UPA deserves proper recognition, says keynote speaker

(UkrNews)—The struggle of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA in its Ukrainian acronym) specifically, and the struggle of the Ukrainian people during the 20th century, in general, deserve to be properly and truthfully recognized in the history of the 21st century, said the keynote speaker at the "Sviato Pokrovy" (Feast Day of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary) concert held at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Centre in Edmonton, Oct. 23.

"I believe in justice. Therefore, despite what (1940's UPA Commander) Gen. Roman Shukhevych wrote in the name of the leadership of the OUN (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists — the political wing of the UPA) in Ukraine, that we follow our orders 'regardless of whether we get a thorny or laurel wreath for this', I believe that, before the 15th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, the national idea will overcome, that the soldiers of OUN/UPA will receive their due recognition at the state level, as the delegation of the Ukrainian World Congress, once again demanded during a meeting with Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, September 25 in Kyiv," said Eugene Czolij, Vive President of the UWC and Past President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Czolij said he was encouraged that a Ukrainian parliamentary commission has presented a draft bill, which would provide the same social benefits to UPA veterans as those accorded to Red Army ones, but was disappointed by the failure of Kyiv police to prevent the attacks perpetrated against UPA veterans by pro-Moscow forces during the Oct. 15 demonstration commemorating the 63rd anniversary of the founding of UPA (see Ukrainian News, October 26 – November 8, 2005).

In his closing address, Yaroslav Szewczuk, President of the Edmonton Branch of the League of Ukrainian Canadians also noted the Oct. 15 riots, stating that they demonstrate that "we still are still waiting for our independent, free Ukrainian state be proud of its true heroes, who did not spare their young lives, be it at Kruty (where 300 Kyiv students were massacred by the advancing Red Army on July 29, 1918) or in the ranks of the UPA."

"Sviato Pokrovy" is observed as a traditional Ukrainian holiday of prominent national, religious and military significance, honouring all who fought in various military formations throughout history, for a free Ukraine. This celebration is held on the feast day of The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Since the 11th-century reign of Kyivan Prince Yaroslav the Wise, the Mother of God has been worshiped as Protectress of the Ukrainian people. In the era of the Zaporizhian Hetmanate the Kozak brotherhood was particularly devoted to the Blessed Virgin, and erected a legendary church in her name in the very heart of the Kozak fortress, the Sich.

In his address, Czolij noted that Shukhevych also put UPA under the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, affirming that the insurgents "fought simultaneously for Christian and human ideals".

The artistic portion of the concert consisted of performance by the "Scola Cantorum" choir, the SUM choir. the Verkhovyna choir, the quartet of Sonia Eshenko, Halyna Lazurko, Markian Gowda and Markian Lazurko, soloist Luba Bilash and Halia Czar. Roman Brytan served as Master of Ceremonies.

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

SUM Choir performs.

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Dnipro and Tryzub perform Maryna.

Dnipro marks Centennial with dynamic performance

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble of Edmonton marked the Alberta Centennial with a dynamic performance of "Four Seasons: A Tribute to Pioneers in Alberta", Oct. 30, at the McDougall United Church in Edmonton.

Approximately 500 people attended the concert, which also featured members of Calgary's Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble as guest performers.

Dnipro is principally conducted by Maria Dytyniak and accompanied by Victoria Kovalchuk, however some pieces were conducted by Gloria Zaharia, or accompanied by Halyna Lazurko.

Female members of Tryzub joined Dnipro for *Maryna* and the trio of Taisa Hantzsch, Natalka Lewis and Kristi Thomson for *Podolianochka*. Vasyl Kanevets is the artistic director and choreographer of Tryzub.

Featured soloists from Dnipro included Irene Federkewych, John Zinchuk, Susan Romaniuk, Olga Federkewych, Emilian Groch, Lesia Chumer, Uliana Kanevets, Andrew Hladyshevsky, Lubomyr Pastuszenko and Natalia Onyschuk.

Other separate performances included the duet of Pastuszenko and Zinchuk, the trio of Chumer, Zaharia and Olesia Talpash, the quintet of Kanevets, Ksenia Maryniak, Onyschuk, Darcia Wasarab-Rolland and Rose Yewchuk and the sextet of Irene and Olga Federkewych, Romaniuk, Onyschuk, Kanevets and Wasarab-Rolland.

Thematically, the concert program followed the sun as it moves through the traditional cycle of a year as set out by the folk calendar of the Ukrainian people.

"Pulsing as one with the cyclical rhythms of nature, this ancient, prehistoric calendar not only measured the passage of time, it was also instrumental in regulating the rhythms of human life. These rhythms consisted of folk customs and ritual activities which were connected to every aspect of life — family, community, and work — and which were almost always accompanied by specific magical acts, religious ceremonies, dances, dramatic plays, incantations, and, of course, songs," wrote Talpash in the program notes.

The first half consisted of Spring and Summer — the second of Fall and Winter. The songs, which make up these performances are culled from a diverse repertoire, which includes sacred, liturgical, folk, operatic and classical music.

Among the highlights were the lyrical audio-visual combination of *Maryna*, the haunting *Land of the Silver Birch*, an arrangement of a Canadian folk classic adapted especially for Dnipro in honour of Alberta's Centennial and *Shchedrivka*, a modern take of the ancient solstice motif used by Mykola Leontovych in the Ukrainian classic *Shchedryk*, which became known in English as *The Carol of the Bells*.

Music society highlights Bezkorovajny's work

(UkrNews)—The Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta held an evening to highlight the work of composer Vasyl Bezkorovajny at the Solarium of St, John's Auditorium in Edmonton, Nov. 4.

Bezkorovajny was born January 12, 1880 in Ternopil, and died March 5, 1966 in Buffalo.

A composer, conductor and pedagogue, Bezkorovajny studied music at the Lviv Conservatory and taught at the gymnasium in Ternopil. He was the organizer of the Ternopil branch of the Lviv Institute of Music and, in 1930, of the Zolochiv branch.

He emigrated to Germany in 1944 and lived in the United States from 1950. Bezkorovajny wrote the children's operetta *Kazka pro Chervonu Shaposhku* (Little Red Riding Hood) with a libretto by Leonid Poltava, numerous choral and instrumental works, and music for the theatre (one example, to accompany Mykola Kulish's play Myna Mazailo), in total over 350 works.

Bezkorovayniy's works were performed by the *Perlyny* trio of Gloria Zaharia, Alica Chumer and Olesia Talpash, accompanied by Halyna Lazurko, the duet of Natalia Onyschuk and Uliana Kanivets, members of *Dnipro* Choir, pianists Liubov Kachmar and Irene Tarnawsky, and the string trio of Michael, Bohdan and Julian Savaryn.

In between the musical numbers, Dnipro conductor Maria Dytyniak provided an overview of Bezkorovajny's life and work

Luba Boyko-Bell, president of the society gave the opening remarks.

Guest performer Mykhailo Koval.

A special surprise was reserved to the end when Mykhailo Koval, a kobzar-bandurist visiting from Ukraine gave an impromptu performance.

Koval, who was visiting at the Ukrainian Folklore Centre at the University of Alberta, did a number of pieces in the tradition Ukrainian kobzar style, including the ballad Marusia Bohuslavka, based upon the epic poem by Taras Shevchenko.

PHOTO — SUPPLIED BY SHUMKA

The finale of "Alberta Echoes".

Shumka premieres allegory of life cycle at Jubilee Gala

By Marco Levytsky

The Ukrainian Shumka Dancers premiered three new pieces at the "Red Boots Ballet and Bubbly" 6th Annual Fundraising Gala, held at the newly renovated Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton, Nov. 5.

These were "Ukrainian Mosaic", "Alberta Echoes — A Dance Tapestry", and "Pathways to Hopak — The Celebration of a Life Worth Living".

"Mosaic" is a pleasant opening number featuring regional dances of the central and western Ukrainian heartland, replete with the vibrant colours and high-spirited joy that are the hallmark of both Ukrainian dance and Shumka's expert rendition.

"Alberta Echoes", which was especially created by choreographer Dave Gannert for Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Edmonton during the celebration of Alberta's Centennial, but never staged, because downpours forced the cancellation of that performance at the outdoor Commonwealth Stadium, is a multicultural kaleidoscope reflecting the province's diverse heritage.

In this performance Shumka was joined by the Mattierin School of Irish Dancing, the Latin Corner, Zephyr, Annie Au and Shang De Martial Arts.

But, without question the piece de resistance of the evening was the allegorical "Pathways" an ambitious depiction of life's journey with *Hopak* as the metaphor for rebirth.

It opens with the beginning of the life cycle — the birth of a child a lyrical opening with plain off-white costumes. As the child progresses to youth the scene turn to the *Kolomyka* — representing the freedom of youth.

That in turn, evolves into the love sequence as the costumes start bringing in more reds and other vibrant colours.

The *borot'ba* or struggle portion, accentuated by the music of *Arkan* symbolizes the conflict that too is part of the life cycle.

"We dance the *Kolomiyka*, we fall in love, but throughout our history, whether it's Ukrainians living in Alberta, living elsewhere in Canada or living in Ukraine there's always that life cycle that has some strife," explains Shumka's Artistic Director Gordon Gordey.

As soldiers lie dead on the battlefield, women in blood-red dresses come our to mourn, but the river of life washes over the battlefield and out of that comes the rebirth in the form of the "golden child".

Thus, the *Hopak*, as a celebration of life brings the cycle to its climax.

Resplendent in their glittering blue and gold costumes, the work of Kyiv's Maria Levytsky, Shumka's dancers had the 1000-strong audience on their feet, roaring with approval during the finale minutes of the show.

Television personalities Colin Maclean (CBC) and Lorraine Mansbridge (Global) served as hosts for the evening

Greetings from the city were presented by Councillor Janice Melnychuk, while Education Minister Gene Zwozdesky did the honours for the province. Zwozdesky also doubled as auctioneer.

A silent auction was also held in the foyer.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Luba Boyko-Bell opens the exhibit under the imposing "Main Ukrainian Celebrations", an acrylic by Iryna Karpenko.

Four newly arrived artists featured at UWO-UNF exhibit

(UkrNews)—Four artists, recently arrived from Ukraine were featured at the "Ukrainian Visual Artists" Exhibit, held at the Ukrainian National Federation Hall in Edmonton, Nov. 5.

The four, who were introduced by Luba Boyko-Bell, president of the Ukrainian Women's organization, which co-sponsored the exhibit with the UNF, are Iryna Karpenko, Oksana Movchan, Valeriy Semenko and Olia Zarapina.

Karpenko, who was born in Kyiv in 1965, and graduated from the Ukrainian Academy of the Arts, works with acrylic and etchings. She lectured at the Slavic centre of the Arts and illustrated children's books in Ukraine. Karpenko has been living in Canada since 2003 and has been a participant of a number of exhibitions in Ukraine, Great Britain and Canada.

Movchan, another native of Kyiv, born in 1968, is also a graduate of the Ukrainian Academy of the Arts. She has been living in Canada since 1996 and has been a participant of 13 exhibitions in Ukraine, United States, Canada, China and Spain. She primarily works with etchings.

Semenko, a native of Bukovyna, was born in 1961 and graduated from the Ivan Franko University in Lviv. He has worked for the Leo Tolstoy publishing house and designed brochures, calendars, children's books and other graphic works. He has participated in numerous exhibits and his work is found in many private collections.

Zarapina, born in 1984 in Kyiv, immigrated to Canada in 1996. She studied painting in Kyiv and is now enrolled in graphic design at the University of Alberta. She experiments with various techniques — both traditional and modernistic. She often paints historical themes and strives to portray the inner feelings of people.

Proceeds from the exhibit were donated to the "Meest Nadiyi" Bridge of Hope project, which helps needy children in Ukraine.

A total of $856.20 was collected at the door.

CKER celebrates 25 years with name change

(UkrNews)—Edmonton's multicultural radio, CKER celebrated 25 years on the air and instituted a name change to 101.7 World FM, Nov. 3

"I think it's a bold and quite fitting change. After all you help bring the sounds of the world to Alberta," said Alberta Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong at the open house held at the station's new location to celebrate the event.

Kwong added that the station helps introduce different cultures to Alberta and provides a valuable service to new Canadians.

"During the transition from the old ways to the new, it's comforting to hear some familiar sounds, a piece of traditional music, your first language, even an accent and that's why CKER has been so important to Alberta," said Kwong

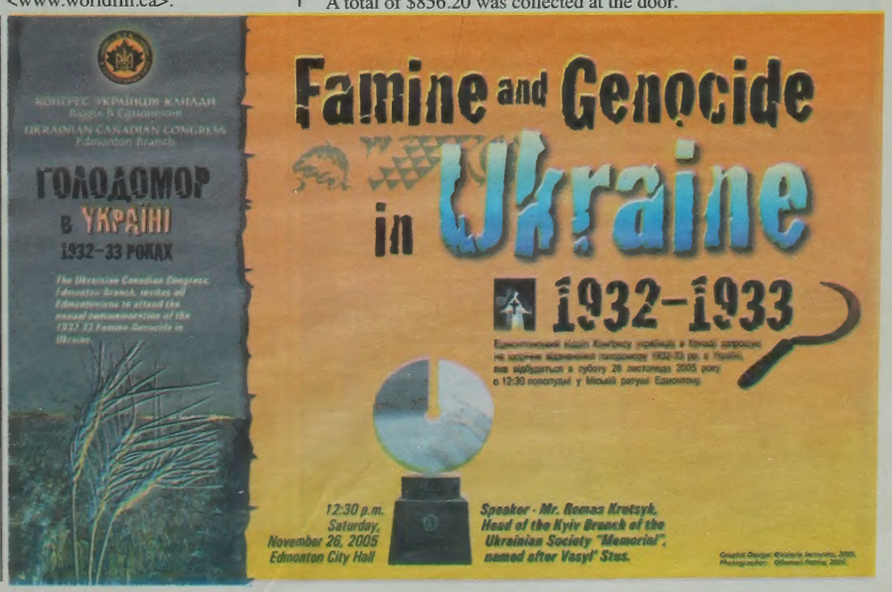
"CKER Radio has played an invaluable role in Edmonton. When the station went on the air in 1980, there was limited access to current news and opinions from the homelands around the world, and little opportunity to spread community news. Today, 101.7 World FM is uniquely connected to the communities we serve. For some listeners, it's about the music. For others, it's the news. But it's always about the language. Hearing the language as they first heard it — it's as simple as that," said General Manager Diana Parker.

During the anniversary program, which was presided over by Roman Brytan, producer of the Ukrainian program for 23 years, individuals who have been on the airways and behind the scenes with CKER for over 20 years, were accorded special recognition.

Also that day, the station's new website, <www.worldfm.ca>, which has information on programming, upcoming events and a seven day audio archive, was launched.

101.7 World FM, which broadcasts in 22 languages, can be heard in Edmonton and area, Calgary, Fort McMurray, Penticton, Campbell River, Castlegar, Kelowna, Trail, Rossland, Nelson, Fruitvale, Montrose, in select Canadian cities on Cable FM, across North America via satellite and online at <www.worldfm.ca>.

Alberta Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong speaking. Behind him is Ukrainian Program Producer Roman Brytan.



КУН подає Вітренко до суду

(ForUm)—Політична партія Конгрес українських націоналістів має намір подати судовий позов до Прогресивної соціалістичної партії України і її лідера Наталії Вітренко. Про це повідомив лідер КУН Олексій Івченко, 8–го листопада. За його словами, це пов'язано з «оскверненням символіки КУН». У свою чергу, народний депутат України, заступник голови КУН Євгенії Гірник відзначив, що це відбулося в Києві 6 листопада під час мітингу ПСПУ біля пам'ятника Ватутіну. За його словами, там був розтоптаний прапор КУН, передає «УНІАН». Івченко також відзначив, що наразі документи про подачу позову на обробці в юридичному департаменті КУН.

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- assistance to seniors and new immigrants
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Шевченко прогнозує адмінтиск на ЗМІ на виборах-2006

(Українські новини)—Голова Національної ради з телебачення й радіомовлення Віталій Шевченко прогнозує адміністративний тиск на засоби масової інформації під час кампанії з виборів Верховної Ради й місцевих рад в 2006 році.

Про це Шевченко сказав журналістам на прес-конференції в ефірі "Радіо "Київ".

"Я думаю, що буде застосовуватися все, що застосовувалося до цього часу. Мається на увазі й "чорний PR", і брудні технології, і будуть наміри застосовувати адміністративний тиск, оскільки вибори збігаються в часі як у Верховну Раду, так і в місцеві ради, а це просто множить можливість застосування таких речей, які не вписуються в цивілізовані правила ведення виборчої кампанії", - сказав Шевченко.

"Дай Боже, щоб вони (журналісти) не приходили до того, що повсюдно застосовувалося раніше, але я цього не виключаю й думаю, що буде все", - додав він.

Він повідомив, що Нацрада розгляне на своєму засіданні офіційні роз'яснення про застосування норм законів про вибори в частині роботи Нацради під час виборчої кампанії.

"Національна рада офіційно винесе це на своє засідання, і це буде документ про практику застосування певної норми Національною радою, тобто це бачення... того, як він буде застосовувати норму, що виписана спеціально для цього органу законом", - сказав Шевченко.

Як повідомляло агентство, Нацрада виступає також за внесення змін до закону про вибори Ради для оптимізації роботи ЗМІ.

Нацрада також вважає, що її роль у виборчому процесі має бути чітко визначена законами.

7 липня Рада прийняла, а 1 жовтня набули чинності зміни до закону "Про вибори народних депутатів". Зміни передбачають, що ЦВК може закрити засіб масової інформації за порушення закону "Про вибори народних депутатів України", зокрема, за поширення свідомо помилкової інформації про кандидатів у депутати.

Також ЗМІ і їхнім співробітникам під час виборчого процесу забороняється агітувати за або проти яких-небудь партій/блоків і віддавати їм перевагу в будь-якій формі.

Пам'ятник Бандері з'явиться у Львові наступного року

(ForUm)—Цього року пам'ятник Степанові Бандері так і не відкриють. Причина – не лише брак фінансування, а й те, що всі сторони, за участю яких реалізують проект, ніяк не скоординують своїх зусиль.

Як повідомив "Газету" голова оргкомітету з будівництва пам'ятника, заступник голови Львівської облради Андрій Парубій, загалом проект обійдеться в 4 млн. грн.,

Наразі кошти на спорудження виділила лише обласна рада (освоєно близько 900 тис. грн.) і благодійники. Міська рада не допомогла навіть копійкою не лише для виготовлення монумента, а й навіть для благоустрою території довкола нього, пише «Львівська газета».

Відтак сесія міської ради розглядатиме окремо питання про надання коштів на роботи, дотичні до пам'ятника Бандери, про що, власне, доповідатиме пан Парубій.

Своєю чергою, Тетяна Крушельницька, депутат від округу, де стоятиме монумент, заявила, що всі "кивання" на обмеженість бюджетних фондів є лише причиною, аби нічого не робити. "Мені соромно, що міська рада нічого не робить, щоб установити пам'ятник такій шанованій людині. Вважаю, що ми повинні знайти ці кошти", – говорить вона.

Тим часом наземні роботи тривають, уже виготовлено металеві конструкції для стел. Сам пам'ятник, за планом, відкриють на початку наступного року, зазначає Андрій Парубій.

Меморіал героям Крут

Віктор Міняйло, *Радіо Свобода*

Біля станції Крути, Чернігівської області, де в січні 1918 року українські січові стрільці, переважно студенти) намагалися зупинити з більшовицьку армією, відбулася презентація проекту Меморіалу "Пам'яті героїв Крут". У заході взяв участь віце-прем'єр-міністр України з гуманітарних питань В'ячеслав Кириленко, народні депутати і журналісти, серед який був і наш колега Віктор Міняйло:

"Солодко і прекрасно вмерти за батьківщину", - так сказав президент Української Народної Республіки Михайло Грушевський на Аскольдовій могилі у Києві під час похорону студентів. Про роль битви під Крутами розповідає Доцент кафедри історії та археології України Чернігівського педуніверситету Тамара Демченко:

"Вони зробили велику справу вже тим, що затримали на добу. За цей час у Бресті уклали мир. Справа у тому, що представник Радянської Росії Троїцький заявив, що "З ким ви підписуєте договір? Київ уже в наших руках". Але коли зателефонували до Києва, то виявилося, що Центральна Рада ще на місці".

Проект меморіалу передбачає курган з Колоною червоного кольору, як біля Київського університету, де навчалися більшість студентів. Перед курганом розколота мармурова плита накрита бронзовою, простреленою студентською шинеллю. Поруч, озеро, з криги якого взимку студенти вирізатимуть хрест і фарбуватимуть його в червоний колір. А навкруги триста чорних каменів і триста кущів червоної калини. Про ідею проекту меморіалу розповідає його автор Анатолій Гайдамака:

"Тут появилося якось озеро. Але воно не має символіки. Тому я його перетворив у "озеро-хрест". Ця битва якраз була на Хрещення, в Хрещенські морози. Тому виникла ідея зробити хрест з води. Потім щоб студенти з цього льоду вирубали цей хрест і фарбували у червоний колір. Уявляєте собі, оце біле поле, засипане снігом, і червоний хрест і червона колона, триста калин з цими каменями на кожну душу загиблого".

Про враження від проекту я запитав народного депутата України Івана Плюща. Він родом з Борзни, що неподалік Крут:

"Ми стоїмо на святому місці. Враження з одного боку надзвичайно приємні, з іншого боку, якась туга по тому, що пройшло стільки років після цієї трагедії і тут не тільки нічого не зроблено, а намагалися всіляко витравити, витерти, викинути усі документи, які пов'язані із цим героїчним місцем. Я не належу до художників, чи коронованих архітекторів, але мені здається, що запропонований проект відкритий для усіх, хто хоче долучитися. Тому мені було приємно почути від віце-прем'єра В'ячеслава Кириленка, що в першій половині наступного року перша черга меморіалу буде збудована."

Не лише Івану Плющу було приємно послухати віце-прем'єр міністра України з гуманітарних питань В'ячеслава Кириленка. Адже саме він має найти кошти для втілення проекту в життя:

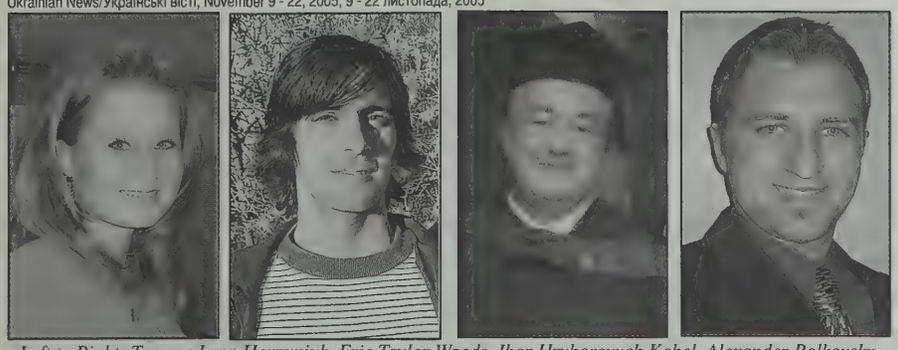
"Гроші позабюджетні. Це буде допомога меценатів, які сприятимуть будівництву цього комплексу. Ми поділимо це на кілька черг. І в першому півріччі наступного року думаю зможемо здати першу частину: курган, колону, і все, що навколо.

Кошторис потребує уточнення, але це не дуже дешево. Разом з тим і не дуже дорого. Основне завдання показати святість цього місця для українців. Тому якісь розкішні елементи тут не зовсім потрібні".

А ще В'ячеслав Кириленко зазначив, що Меморіал пам'яті Героїв Крут обов'язково входитиме до туристичних маршрутів Чернігівської області.

У Тернополі на честь річниці революції битимуть дзвони

(ForUm)—З нагоди річниці «оранжевої революції» в церквах Тернополя влаштують передзвін. Як передає кореспондент, про це 8 листопада на прес-конференції повідомив голова Тернопільської обласної державної адміністрації Іван Стойко. За його словами, вранці 20 листопада в храмах різних конфесій по всій області відбудуться літургії за Україну. "В Тернополі ж народне віче супроводжуватимуть церковні передзвони", – відмітив Стойко, передає «УНІАН». Він розповів, що в неділю, 20 листопада, як і рік тому, на Театральній площі буде скликано народне віче. На ньому Стойко пообіцяв відзвітувати про свою роботу за час перебування на посаді голови Тернопільської облдержадміністрації.



Left to Right: Tamara Lynn Horpyniuk, Eric Taylor Woods, Ihor Hryhorovych Kobel, Alexander Polkovsky.

CIUS announces Scholarship and Fellowship recipients for 2005–06

(CIUS)—Every year, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies awards scholarships and fellowships to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian studies based on their academic standing, scholarly achievements and other criteria. The awards are funded from income earned from endowment funds, which were established to reward excellence in scholarship and encourage students to pursue academic programs in Ukrainian studies.

Three undergraduate awards for the 2005-6 academic year were presented to two students. Tamara Lynn Horpyniuk received both the Leo J. Krysa Family Undergraduate Scholarship and the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club (Edmonton) Scholarship in Education. A graduate of the Ukrainian bilingual program, Tamara sings in the St. Nicholas Parish church choir, dances with the Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, and has been a counselor at summer Ukrainian dance camps. In September 2005, Tamara began her fourth year of studies in the Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, majoring in secondary education.

Alexander Polkovsky, a third-year student at the U of A's School of Business, received the Steven Kobrynsky Memorial Scholarship. This award is offered biennially to an undergraduate at the U of A who demonstrates outstanding achievement or proficiency in the Ukrainian language. In his letter of acceptance, Alexander thanked those involved in establishing the scholarship, noting that "If it were not for your efforts, obtaining a post-secondary education would be a much more difficult task."

CIUS assistant director Dr. Bohdan Klid, who chaired the adjudication committee, commented that "this year's pool of graduates was excellent, with a number of very strong candidates." The Marusia and Michael Dorosh Master's Fellowship, awarded annually to a student writing a thesis on a Ukrainian or Ukrainian Canadian topic in education, history, law, humanities, arts, social sciences, women's studies or library sciences, was presented to Eric Taylor Woods. Eric is pursuing a master's degree in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. His thesis, which deals with political theory, will consider how Ukrainian Canadian identity might be more meaningfully represented in the Canadian public sphere.

The Helen Darcovich Memorial Doctoral Fellowship is awarded annually to a doctoral student who has completed all degree requirements and is writing a dissertation on a Ukrainian or Ukrainian Canadian topic in one of the fields of study mentioned above. This year the fellowship was shared by two outstanding applicants, Anna Fournier and Ihor Hryhorovych Kobel.

Anna Fournier earned a B.A. from McGill University, an M.Sc. from the University of Montreal, and an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. Fluent in English, French and Spanish, Anna also mastered Ukrainian during her frequent trips to Ukraine, where she has conducted field work in her area of study. Her dissertation, entitled "Educational Practice and the Building of Democratic Citizenship in Ukraine," will offer "an anthropological approach to the democratization process currently under way in Ukraine," with particular attention to the role of schools in fostering democratic citizenship.

Since coming to Canada from Lviv in 1998, Ihor Kobel has tirelessly promoted research and academic cooperation between Canada and Ukraine in the field of special education, specifically for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. Having obtained two undergraduate degrees in Ukraine and taught deaf students at a residential school in Lviv, Ihor completed a M.Ed. degree at the U of A and then embarked on a doctoral program in the Department of Educational Psychology. He proposes to develop a new bilingual/bicultural model for the education of deaf students that will be the basis of his dissertation, entitled "Applicability of the Canadian Experience in the Reform of Education for the Deaf in Ukraine." After completing his studies, Ihor plans to return to his home and family in Lviv and accept an invitation from Lviv University to become a full-time instructor in special education.

In the 2005-6 academic year, the total value of undergraduate and graduate scholarships awarded by CIUS was $32,000. In congratulating all the award recipients, CIUS director Dr. Zenon Kohut said, "We wish you much success in your academic pursuits and professional careers and encourage you to maintain a future relationship with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies."

Shevchenko Foundation announces key dates for Kobzar Literary Awards

(UCFTS)—The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko (the Shevchenko Foundation) is pleased to announce the following key dates for the $25,000 Kobzar Literary Award 2006:

* Tuesday, November 15, 2005 — Panel of Jurors announced

* Monday, January 16, 2006 — List of Finalists released

* Thursday, March 2, 2006 — Inaugural winner announced at a dinner and awards ceremony to be held at Toronto's Eglinton Grand.

The vision of the Shevchenko Foundation for the Kobzar Literary Award is to foster cultural development through the Literary Arts and create opportunities for all Canadian writers to explore Ukrainian Canadian themes that are relevant to Canadians.

Presented every two years, the $25,000 Kobzar Literary Award ($20,000 to the author; $5,000 to the publisher) recognizes a Canadian writer who best presents a Ukrainian Canadian theme with literary merit through poetry, play, screenplay, musical, fiction, non-fiction or young people's literature.

For more information, contact: Christine Turkewych, Ph.D. Program Director, Kobzar Literary Award & Program, or Gregory Hamara, Canadian Media Contact, Oksana Zakydalsky, Ukrainian Media Contact (416-243-0122) or got to www.shevchenkofoundation.com.

The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko was established in 1961 when the Ukrainian Canadian community raised funds to celebrate the work of Taras Shevchenko, Ukraine's great poet (1814-1861), with a monument erected on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislature.

In July of 1962, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (then the Ukrainian Canadian Committee) resolved to set aside a $30,000 surplus from the Shevchenko monument project into a capital fund that became known as the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko. The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko became incorporated by an Act of Parliament on July 22nd, 1963.

In 1964, the Shevchenko Foundation began distributing project grants awarding $400. In 1973, on its 10th Anniversary, total donations to the Foundation surpassed $500,000.

Today, the Shevchenko Foundation awards nearly $300,000 annually. To-date the Foundation has distributed over $5.5 million in grants to organizations and individuals who support cultural development among Ukrainian Canadians.

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The Board of Directors is recruiting for a dynamic, results-oriented Executive Director to manage the operations of the Institute with a team of four staff. The ideal candidate for this position will be a self-starter with a demonstrated record of leadership, communications and interpersonal skills, a working knowledge of the Ukrainian language and culture, ability to work effectively with post-secondary students, parents and the Ukrainian community at large. Essential skills for this position include supervision, financial management, marketing/recruitment, fund raising and the ability to use technology effectively. The Executive Director is also expected to play an integral role in the five-week annual summer Mohyla Ukrainian Cultural Camp which attracts students from across Canada and the U.S.A.

Completion of an undergraduate degree in Education, Business Administration or other relevant disciplines, combined with at least five years work experience relevant to this position would be preferred.

Letters of application should be accompanied with references, portfolios and a synopsis of the applicant's knowledge of the Institute, and be addressed to:

Executive Director Recruitment Committee
St. Petro Mohyla Institute
1240 Temperance Street, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0P1

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У Віндзорі буде відкритий пам'ятник Голодомору

о.прот. П. Березняк

З ініціятиви працівників музею "Windsor Community Baby House Museum" та співпраці з українською організацією КУК, у Віндзорі від травня до кінця грудня проходить виставка «Мрія». Ця виставка була відкрита 15–го травня молитвою отців православної і католицької Церков – прот. Павлом Березняком і о. Петром Грициком та вступним словом Лесі Назаревич – голови комітету. Відтак про значення виставки «Мрія» говорили: Гю Барретт – координатор музею й Петро Мицак – голова місцевої організації КУК.

Багато чого інтересного можна дізнатися з історії поселенців у Віндзорі та околицях по сьогодення. Згідно зі словами працівників музею, зацікавлення виставкою є дуже велике. Музей відвідують не лише канадці, але також з США (між іншими була зорганізована екскурсія з Огаіо).

Також, громада Віндзору та околиць, заходами голови КУК – П. Мицака, відзначила річницю Незалежности України 25–го вересня в авдиторії при соборі Св. Володимира. Молебень з цієї нагоди відслужили: о. митрат Евгеній Галицький та о. прот. Павло Березняк при співі хору з української католицької Церкви під проводом о. Петра Грицика з участю біля 90 осіб.

Друга частина святкування розпочалася вечерою та відповідною програмою. П. Мицак привітав присутніх, особливо головного доповідача – Орисю Сушко, голову КУК на Канаду та поділився своїми спостереженнями відносно «Помаранчевої Революції» й українського уряду.

На долю кожної людини складаються різні людські прикмети. Тому одних людей цінимо за ці прикмети високо, інших сереньо. Кожну людину осуджуємо на основі вартости її добрих чи від'ємних прикмет. Цією мірою міряємо людину, громаду і цілий народ. Щаслива та громада й нарід, що складається з одиниць, про яких говорять з пошаною за їхню працю. Такою особою в нашій українській громаді відзначається Орися Сушко, про працю котрої розповіла Люба Магли.

«Голова КУК на Канаду – О. Сушко – в своїм слові звернула увагу про ситуацію на Україні та висловила признання за надзвичайну тяжку й довголітню працю членам КУК в Канаді. За її змістовий і цікавий реферат п. Орися була нагороджена публікою гучними оплесками та китицею червоних живих рож, котрі вручив П. Мицак на знак любови, пошани й подяки за її слово.

Після доповіді пролунали народні українські пісні у виконанні молодих дівчат. Концерт почався піснями Оксани Пікуш з Віндзор, а так Соломія Стахів з Клівленд, Огаіо продеклямувала зворушливий вірш самою написаний, присвячений «Помаранчевій Революції». З великою приємністю і насолодою присутні вислухали в'язанку пісень у виконанні Соломії Стахів й Оксани Вигнан з Клівленд, Огаіо, за що публіка нагородила їх гучними оплесками. А п. Петро в подяку обдарував співачок рожами.

На кінці офіційної частини П. Мицак подякував громаді за велику підтримку і фінансову допомогу при завершенні будови пам'ятника присвяченому «Штучному Голодомору в Україні», котрий буде посвячений 13–го листопада в Джаксон Парк у Віндзорі.

І ще одна важлива подія – а це канонічна візитація Високопреосвященішого Архієпископа Юрія в соборній православній парафії св. Володимира. Владика Юрій прибув до нас 1–го жовтня. Після обіду наш Шановний Гість, з настоятелем парафії, відвідали музей "Windsor Community Baby House Museum", в котрому ц.р. відбувається виставка «Мрія» присвячена історії українського населення у Віндзорі та околицях, де зустрінувся з прибулими на виставку побожними вірними української громади не лише з Віндзор. Того–ж самого дня, з участю Владики, о год. 6:00 вечора була відправлена вечірня в соборі при Текамси вулиці. Співав місцевий хор під проводом Гелени Панчишак.

2–го жовтня, гарна осіння погода сприяла для участи побожних вірних, з української католицької й православної Церков та далеких околиць, які своєю присутністю скоро переповнили Божий Храм.

Голова громади Глен Джірард й голова відділу Союзу Українок Канади, ім. Лесі Українки, Стефанія Коростіль вітали Владику за старинним звичаєм «хлібом і сіллю». При вході до собору св. Володимира, Арх. Юрія вітав настоятель – прот. Павло Березняк. Запрошений громадою, Архієрейську Літургію звеличав своїм приємними голосами славний хор «Капеля Бандуристів» ім. Т. Шевченка, яким диригував Олег Махлай. Цей хор зробив миле враження на віруючих під час богослуження, котрі з великою приємністю і насолодою слухали їх ангельського співу.

Після Літургії всі перейшли до парафіяльної залі, де святкування продовжувалося. Програмою провадив Евген Масляк. Після представлення гостей за головним столом в офіційній частині програми посипалися привіти: П. Мицак – голова КУК; М. Пляцко – голова парафії з Лімінгтон; М. Шпитковський – голова Східньої Управи ТУС; С. Стасюк – член парафії св. Володимира з Торонто; М. Друль – голова ТУС з Віндзора; С. Коростіль – голова СУК. Ірина Балан й Володимир Сенчук з Вінніпегу в своїм слові вичерпно говорили про виставку присвячену Василю Авраменко, котра того дня відбувалася в парафіяльній залі.

Українські лікарі повертаються з Пакистану

(ForUm)—Медичний персонал українського мобільного госпіталю почав згортати госпіталь.

Як повідомили в прес-службі Міністерства України з питань надзвичайних ситуацій та у справах захисту населення від наслідків Чорнобильської катастрофи, наразі прийом амбулаторної хворих і тих, яким необхідна невідкладна меддопомога, продовжується. За час перебування мобільного госпіталю в Пакистані надана допомога більше як 10 тис. потерпілим від землетрусу.

Повернення рятувального загону МНС України, у складі якого близько 80 медиків і рятувальників, заплановано на 15 листопада 2005 року, повідомляє «ЛІГА».

ФОТО — РОМАН ПЕТРІВ

Учасники поетичного вечора із професором Славутичем.

Поетичний вечір «вигадливого сина»

Романа Поріцька, *Секретар УНО*

Саме так називає себе одним із найпопулярніших поетів свого покоління Яр Славутич. Це є щедро обдарована людина, а до того ж літературознавець і мовознавець, який здобув собі тривке місце в новій українській літературі, та в серцях Української громади міста Едмонтона. 25-го вересня 2005 року, Українське Національне Об'єднання (УНО) та братська організація Організація Українок Канади міста Едмонтона урочисто провели літературний вечір присвячений творчості видатного українсько канадського поета Яра Славутича.

Програму вечора підготовила і провела засновниця драматичного гуртка «Сузір'я» – Леся Петрів. Завдяки ведучій Лесі, та всім виконавцям, які вклали свій час та душу, вечір пройшов успішно і був дуже цікавим. Розпочав програму теж неменш талановитий поет Леонід Коровник, якій дуже вміло розповів біографію Яра Славутича. Народився Григорій Жученко (справжнє ім'я Яра Славутича) 11 січня 1918 року поблизу села Благодатного що на північній Херсонщині. На своєму життєвому шляху Яр пережив чи немало бід від рук сталінізму чи фашизму. Але своєю мужністю, наполегливістю, любов'ю до рідного краю та її солов'їної мови, Яр переміг всі негаразди і продовжував творити. Він також дотримався своєї присяги і в своїх поезіях виніс у світ нашу історію і Правду. Тепер поезії Яра Славутича перекладені на англійську, французьку, німецьку, італійську, угорську, польську, білоруську та російську мови. Його поезію читають і вивчають у багатьох країнах світу.

Яр Славутич є лауреат першої та другої премій Українського літературного фонду ім. І. Франка в Чикаго, премій ім. Дмитра Яворницького в Січеславі та ім. Дмитра Загули в Чернівцях, а також інших нагород в Діаспорі та в Україні. Варто зазначити, що у 1998 році, Президент України за рекомендацію Національної Спілки Письменників України та Інституту літератури ім. Т. Шевченка Національної Академії Наук, нагородив Яра Славутича Орденом «За Заслуги» 3-го ступеня.

У всіх книжках, що складають чималу поетичну збірку, наш талановитий автор також дбає про майстерність вислову та самобутність творчості. В той самий час, тематика творів Яра Славутича дуже різноманітна, та й сам автор багатогранна людина. Його літературна творчість охоплює поезію, редагування і видання збірників, альманахів і підручників. Він пише чи мало на теми літературознавства й мовознавства; їздить багато по різних країнах світу; відбуває наукові конференції; дає доповіді й продовжує ознайомлювати чужинців з історією України.

Твориш ти й твориш, вигадливий сину, —
Все про князів, козаків, батьківщину.
Славиш ти волю, події минулі,
Меч харалужний і панцир, і кулі.

І справді, протягом вечора, слухачам не раз зачитали вірші де Славутич пише про історію та культуру своєї батьківщини, а вірніше двох батьківщин. У програмі прозвучали такі вірші: «Кам'янець із батьківської хати», «О, степи на сяйному Херсоні», «Дві батьківщини», «Альберта», «Завойовники прерій». Також прикрасили літературний вечір твори Славутича такі як «Заповіт Мазепи», «Повернення», «На купала», «На світанку» та інші. Але програма не була б настільки цікава, якщо б не долучилися шанувальники поезії Яра Славутича і від душі прочитали вище згадані твори. А це були молоді та юні члени УНО – Валерій Семенко, Ліля Суха, Оля Миц, Яна Виговська та Мар'яна Сех. Наймолодшими читачами вечора стали Марина і Дмитро Музиченки, яким лише по 12 і 9 років.

Без сумніву, програма вечора була дуже насичена, де прозвучало багато творів Яра Славутича у виконанні місцевих українських талантів. Хор «Дніпро», хористи якого чудово виконали пісню «Саскачеванка». Український чоловічий хор під керівництвом диригента Г. Малюжинського прекрасно заспівали два твори Славутича «Карпатські січовики» та «Мовою матері». Також бандуристка Галина Грица своїм чудовим голосом завершила програму заспівавши «Синові в дорогу» та «Тополина земля».

Канадська організація вручила нагороду українському журналісту

Генеральне консульство України в Торонто інформує, що 1–го листопада в Торонто відбулася урочиста церемонія вручення Міжнародної нагороди свободи преси Канадської організації журналістів за свободу слова.

Одна з цьогорічних нагород була вручена українському журналісту Миколі Вересню. Як зазначається у повідомленні організації журналістів, М. Вересень – ветеран української журналістики, відомий як один з засновників "Хартії 4-х" – неприбуткової організації, метою якої є залучення ЗМІ до моніторингу та організації проектів на підтримку розвитку громадянського суспільства в Україні, а також обличчя "5-го каналу" під час Помаранчевої Революції, який для багатьох став обличчям та голосом самої Революції.

Міжнародна нагорода свободи преси Канадської організації журналістів за свободу слова вручається з 1998 року та на цей час є центральною подією у відзначенні діяльності на підтримку свободи преси у Канаді. Щорічно цю нагороду отримують один канадський та два іноземних журналіста. Премія є визнанням за мужність та рішучість журналістів, які стикаються з юридичними, фізичними або іншого роду перепонами у своїй професійній діяльності.

Канадською організацією журналістів за свободу слова було також наголошено, що Україна протягом останніх років залишалася доволі небезпечною країною для журналістів, де у 2004 р. 20 журналістів були заарештовані, 30 зазнали фізичних утисків, а, загалом, за минулі 10 років в країні було вбито 4 журналісти. У цьому зв'язку варто також зазначити, що з 9 номінантів на отримання премії для іноземних журналістів, двоє представляли Україну (М. Вересень та Р. Ярмоляк).

Сама церемонія вручення премії є важливим заходом у сфері журналістики країни, про що свідчить рівень почесних гостей, яких запрошують організатори. Серед них були колишній Генерал-губернатор Канади Андрієн Кларксон, колишній міністр закордонних справ, а на цей час міністр оборони, Білл Ґреґем, колишній комісар ООН з прав людини Мері Робінсон, лауреат Нобелівської премії Джон Полани. У цьогорічній церемонії у якості головного доповідача взяв участь відомий американський журналіст Сеймур Герш.

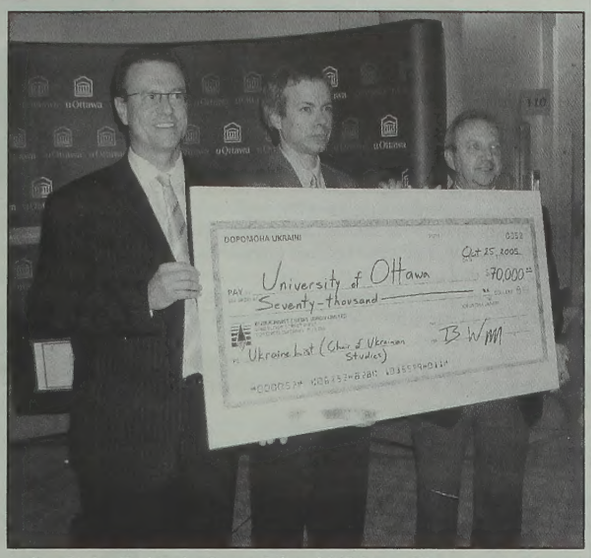
Зі свого боку Генконсульство організувало низку зустрічей Вересня з представниками місцевих ЗМІ.

Wrzesnewskyj donates $70,000 to U of O's Chair of Ukrainian Studies

(CUS)—Borys Wrzesnewskyj, MP in the Toronto riding of Etobicoke Centre has presented a cheque in the amount of $70,000 to the Chair of Ukrainian Studies of the University of Ottawa on behalf of his family's charitable foundation the Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation to fund the Chair's electronic newsletter, The Ukraine List (UKL), the calling card of the Chair.

During the Orange Revolution, UKL experienced phenomenal growth reaching thousands of scholars, diplomats, international journalists, businesspeople, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and community members, in over forty countries. The initial contribution of the Foundation will support UKL, its network of research assistants and translators, as well as a project of web archives.

This will enable UKL, and therefore the Chair, to strengthen its visibility internationally. The Foundation is also underwriting an initiative aimed at developing a Centre for Contemporary Archives on Ukraine.



Left to Right: Etobicoke Centre Liberal MP Borys Wrzesnewsky, Professor Dominique Arel (Chairholder, Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa), and Professor Francoise Houle (Dean, Faculty of Social Studies, University of Ottawa).

The Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the U of O is the first research unit focused on the study of political, economic and social issues in contemporary Ukraine. The Chair considers itself a national institution, reaching out to communities across Canada.

The Ukraine List (UKL) is an academic/current affairs newsletter aimed at and sent to a select audience of scholars, journalists, government analysts and decision-makers, and businessmen, NGO practitioners, community activists and people interested in Ukraine matters. Nearly half of UKL subscribers joined the List since the historic Nov. 21, 2004, second round vote.

The generous donation was accepted on behalf of the U of O by Dr. François Houle, Dean for the Faculty of Social Sciences, and Chairholder Dr. Dominique Arel. In his opening remarks during the presentation, Wrzesnewskyj stressed that:

"Last year was historic in many ways for Ukrainian Canadians. Thousands of Canadians of Ukrainian origin reaffirmed their ties to the homeland of their ancestors by taking time away from their own families during Christmas and traveling to Ukraine to help ensure democracy prevailed during the Orange Revolution. This was one more example of the special relationship and bond that exists between Canada and Ukraine. There are many institutions in Canada that also played an important role in these events and The Chair of Ukrainian Studies of the University of Ottawa is certainly one such institution. The Chair's research and dissemination of critical findings related to governance and public policy in contemporary Ukraine is extremely important and its academic/current affairs electronic newsletter The Ukraine List benefits thousands of scholars, journalists, government analysts and decision-makers, business persons, NGOs, and community activists in deepening their knowledge of Ukraine."

Both Dr. Houle and Dr. Arel thanked Wrzesnewskyj on behalf of the University of Ottawa and noted that the donation represents a critically important gesture for the development of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies into a national program devoted to the study of contemporary Ukraine.

"The University made a commitment in making possible the appointment of a Chairholder. We are delighted that Mr. Wrzesnewskyj and the Dopomoha Ukraini Foundation recognize the importance of the Chair in funding one of its most ambitious programs," said Dean Houle. "Mr. Wrzesnewskyj played a phenomenal role during the Orange Revolution and understands that maintaining a high level of Canadian engagement in Ukraine as a sine qua non for the success of Orange reforms requires up-to-the minute access to analytical information about Ukraine, which The Ukraine List provides for a global select audience. His support is hugely significant for the growth of The Chair of Ukrainian Studies," added Dr. Arel.

The mission of The Ukraine List is to present a selection of the most pertinent English-language news items, provide an English translation of important articles published in the Ukrainian, Russian, and non-English language European media, offer a forum to academics and other experts for analysis, commentaries, and other original contributions on Ukraine, and post relevant announcements on academic gatherings, scholarly competitions, new publications, job offers and the like, pertaining to the burgeoning field of Ukrainian studies.

UKL's strength lies in the quality of its selected items. It aims at presenting various viewpoints, an effort enhanced by its translation service, and regular analysis of ongoing issues. UKL has established itself as the List of reference for an understanding of the complexity of contemporary Ukraine.

Wrzesnewskyj has dedicated much of his life to working with community groups and humanitarian causes both here and abroad. As an activist in Ukraine, Wrzesnewskyj funded, organized and supported civil rights groups and democratic reform on the ground in Ukraine prior to glasnost and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Throughout the recent crisis in Ukraine, Wrzesnewskyj worked tirelessly to reach all-party consensus in Canada's Parliament to support the struggle for democracy in Ukraine. Last year, Wrzesnewskyj spearheaded a unanimously accepted House of Commons motion on Oct. 26, an emergency debate on November 24, and another unanimously accepted motion on Nov. 25.

He was instrumental in securing the Government of Canada's commitment to send 500 election observers to Ukraine for the December 2004 Presidential election. Today, the Wrzesnewskyj family continues to work in Ukraine, funding and organizing both relief efforts for orphans, and post-secondary scholarship funds for promising students in need.

UMANA-UKiP conference participants: (from left, front) Dr. Bohdan Klid, Anna Biscoe, Kim Robinson(UKiP) (rear) Dr. George Hrycelak, Dr. Andrew Iwach (UMANA)

UMANA plans major expansion of web presence with UKiP

(UMANA)—Representatives of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) and the Ukrainian Knowledge Internet Portal Consortium Association (UKiP) met in Chicago Oct. 16 and 17 to solidify plans for a major expansion of UMANA's Internet activity for the immediate future.

UMANA's president Andrew Iwach, MD, believes that "communication via the world wide Web is the key to expanding medical knowledge and resources to Ukrainians globally, at a fast pace and reasonable cost." UMANA's current Web site has served admirably until now. Dr. Iwach explains that "UMANA is striving to become the first major Ukrainian American professional group to fully incorporate the Ukrainian language into its web site, thereby opening its resources to all. Collaborating with our Canadian colleagues will lead to an efficient partnership"

While in Edmonton this summer for the UMANA Scientific Conference, board members made contact with representatives of UKiP, a consortium of organizations dedicated to the development and delivery of resources for learning and appreciating the Ukrainian language and culture. Headquartered in Edmonton, UKiP coordinates, develops and provides bilingual (English-Ukrainian) on-line learning resources to a variety of schools, post-secondary institutions, and worldwide audience. Members of UKiP include the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, Canada Ukraine Foundation, Ukrainian Resource and Development Center at Grant MacEwan College and others. UMANA Board members began preliminary deliberations in Edmonton to evaluate the possibility that UMANA's Web site could be enhanced and raised to bilingual status through cooperation with UKiP.

UKiP members Dr. Roman Petryshyn (via teleconference), Anna Biscoe, Dr. Bohdan Klid, and Kim Robinson visited UMANA headquarters over the weekend of Oct. 15-17 meeting formally with the board of directors to present their proposal for developing UMANA Web site. Board members discussed the various options and potential expansions with enthusiasm, realizing that a successful Web expansion will significantly increase the association's reach, and include a large segment of Ukrainian speaking health care professionals for whom up to now this has been a difficult task.

One major change will have the basic Web site exist in both languages, English and Ukrainian. A visitor could pick between versions with a simple click of a button. Posted material would be translated and updated with new editions, such as the currently posted issues of *UMANA News* and *Likarskyj Visnyk (Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, JUMANA)*. Options will be built in to allow links to major medical resource sites, and allow viewing of select articles of interest to the medical community.

Another goal is to encourage UMANA members to begin to incorporate the Internet as a basic learning resource as well as communication center for association activities and knowledge database. "If we can serve as a template for other Ukrainian-American professional organizations in the Diaspora, so much the better, " reasons Dr. Iwach.

At the UMANA Board meeting Oct. 17, members voted to proceed with the project to expand and amend the www.umana.org Web site. Input on proposed changes will be sought from the UMANA members, with enhancements expected to be tested and completed by early 2006.

Yushchenko calls for higher salaries for judges

(RFE/RL)— Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has called for judges' salaries to be increased as part of a bid to end bribe taking. Opening a judicial conference in Kyiv, Yuschenko proposed that judges' salaries be raised by nearly 50 percent — to the equivalent of US$760 per month. Reports say that is nearly five times the average national salary of about $160. Yushchenko admitted that Ukrainian courts still don't operate transparently, and that the number of complaints against judges continues to rise. He said the European Court of Human Rights received some 9,000 appeals last year from Ukrainians .

EU helps Ukraine fight illegal migration

(RFE/RL)—The European Union has allocated $3.8 million euros (US$4.5 million) to help Kyiv fight illegal migration and create an efficient system of managing migratory movement through the country, Ukrainian media reported on Nov. 8, quoting Deputy Interior Minister Hennadiy Moskal. In particular, the money will be spent on the establishment of two detention centers for illegal migrants, one in Volyn Oblast and the other in Chernihiv Oblast. Moskal explained that Ukraine has no such centers at present, and detained migrants are kept jointly with vagrants and homeless persons, which is against international law.

Newsbriefs

Rada rejects NATO air support

(RFE/RL)—The Verkhovna Rada did not ratify on Nov. 2 an agreement between Ukraine and NATO regarding the use of Ukrainian strategic aircraft in NATO operations and exercises, Interfax reported. The agreement, signed on June 7 in Warsaw, provided for the creation of legal grounds for the use of Ukrainian aircraft in such situations, and was intended to be a step toward active cooperation between Ukraine and NATO in the context of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

EU praises Ukraine

(RFE/RL)— EU External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner described Ukraine on Oct. 31 as a positive example of the European Neighborhood Policy, Interfax reported the same day. Ferrero-Waldner also said the EU will uphold its commitments and grant Ukraine market-economy status on Dec. 1 in response to, and to improve economic reforms in the country. Ferrero-Waldner also said she believes the 2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine will be of key importance for further reforms.

Ukraine delighted at UEFA choice, vows to win tournament

Ukraine's top soccer official on Nov. 8 expressed delight that a joint bid by his country and Poland made the short list to stage the 2012 European championship and vowed to press ahead to win the tournament, reports Reuters.

Hryhory Surkis, speaking immediately after returning from the UEFA meeting in Malta, said the bid made it into the top three despite major shortcomings he vowed to put right in time.

"We knew when we entered the competition that our infrastructure was lacking. There are lots of things we just don't have — roads, hotels, airports," Surkis, President of the Ukrainian Soccer Federation, told a news conference.

"But we were different from the others in that we had a good programme, a very strong proposal."

Surkis said he "nearly fell of his chair" when the top two leaders were announced, Italy and a joint Hungary/Croatia bid.

"When I then heard that Ukraine was third, this was the happiest moment of my life," he said.

"We have been living in a fairytale for a year. Give us the chance to turn the fairytale into a reality. We can do this."

Offering the championship to Ukraine and Poland — both ex-communist states — would have a "multiplier effect" in stimulating the development of both countries' economies.

"I do not believe that we were merely fighting for the sports honour of Poland and Ukraine. We were fighting for the authority and prestige of our two countries," Surkis said.

"I am convinced that if both countries and their leaders work together consistently we can be healthy and happy not only this year but in years to come by staging the final in 2012."

Surkis said the bid stood a chance of beating Italy in the final vote in December 2006 in the same way that relatively poor Portugal had won the right to stage the 2004 tournament.

It offered, he said, unprecedented prospects for eastern Europe's huge markets, and the bid was helped by the election victory in Ukraine of liberals committed to European integration after last year's "Orange Revolution" protests.

"We essentially represent a bridge between western and eastern Europe," he said.

"Poland is already a member of the European Union and Ukraine consistently says it wants to integrate with the EU. Sport and soccer can serve as a new a means to develop economic, social and legislative change."

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Klitshcko hangs up his gloves

Sports

WBC heavyweight champion Vitali Klitschko has retired because of a knee injury, a statement on his former promoter's Web site said Nov. 9, as reported by the Associated Press.

The 34-year-old Klitschko pulled out of the Nov. 12 title defense against Hasim Rahman in Las Vegas because he tore ligaments in his right knee the previous week in training. The WBC said that Rahman would be given Klitschko's title should the Ukrainian fail to defend within three months.

The knee injury would require six months to heal. Klitschko's statement said the knee was examined Nov. 8, and that he underwent surgery in Inglewood, Calif.

"Unfortunately, I've been fighting injuries recently more than facing rivals in the ring," Klitschko said in a statement released by Universum Promotions. "The decision to end was hard to make, but I would like to end my career on top."

The 6-foot-8 fighter sometimes had an awkward, stiff style, but packed a powerful punch, especially in his right hand.

His retirement means the Klitschko brothers won't realize their ambition to share the heavyweight championship.

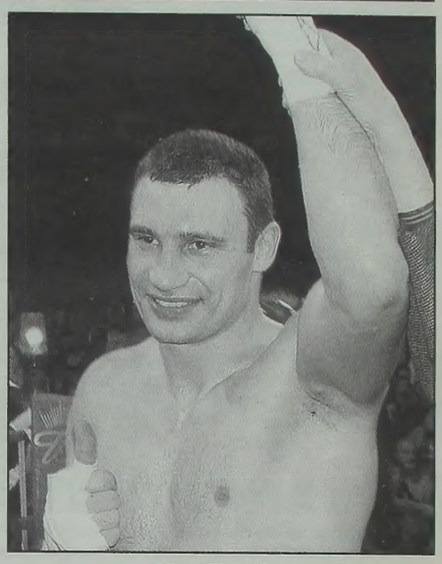
Wladimir Klitschko, Vitali's younger brother, got back into contention when he beat Samuel Peter in a unanimous decision in September in an IBF elimination bout. The victory made Wladimir the mandatory challenger to IBF champion Chris Byrd.

Vitali, who hadn't fought since stopping Danny Williams in the first defense of his title last December, was first supposed to have met Rahman in April.

But the fight was postponed when Klitschko pulled a thigh muscle, and initial attempts to reschedule it were stopped when he sustained a back injury.

WBC president Jose Sulaiman said that the latest cancellation was the fourth time Klitschko (35-2, 34 knockouts) has backed out of a fight with Rahman (41-5-1 , 33 KOs), and hinted that he might be looking for excuses to stay out of the ring with the American.

Rahman, a former heavyweight champion, grew so tired of waiting to meet the Ukrainian that he fought Monte Barrett in August. He won on a decision to become the WBC interim champion.



Vitali Klitschko

Klitschko is the second WBC heavyweight champion in a row to retire while holding the title. Lennox Lewis quit in February 2004 after beating Klitschko in his last fight. Klitschko's other loss, when he also was forced to quit because of an injury, came in April 2000 to Byrd.

Lewis was the first reigning world heavyweight champion to quit since Rocky Marciano in 1956. The only other fighter to do so was Gene Tunney in 1928.

Klitschko stopped Corrie Sanders in the eighth round in April 2004 to win the WBC belt.

Shakhtar maintain perfect start

(UEFA)—FC Shakhtar Donetsk made it two wins from two in Group G after recording an impressive 2-0 victory against Bundesliga outfit VfB Stuttgart at the Gottlieb-Daimler-Stadion, Nov. 3.

Fernandinho and Ciprian Marica were both on target as the Ukrainian side added to their Matchday 1 victory against PAOK FC to open a three-point lead at the top of the section. Stuttgart remain on three points courtesy of their 2-0 win at Stade Rennais FC a fortnight ago, although they appeared in control early on against Shakhtar.

Christian Tiffert's powerful long-range effort for the hosts was caught by Dmytro Shutkov after just 20 seconds as the home side started positively. Denmark striker Jon Dahl Tomasson produced the next shot on goal but his effort from outside the area went wide of the post.

Tiffert and Danijel Ljuboja both had attempts on goal as the German side established a firm foothold in the game but neither forced a save from Shutkov. The away team then took an unexpected lead on the half-hour, Fernandinho getting on the end of a Darijo Srna cross and placing his header past Stuttgart goalkeeper Dirk Heinen.

Stuttgart coach Giovanni Trapattoni signalled his intent by bringing on striker Cacau at the interval for the more defence-minded Christian Gentner, although they struggled to fashion any meaningful opportunities. Danish winger Jesper Grønkjær was then brought on for Silvio Meissner, but the stubborn Ukrainian outfit held firm and went close themselves on the hour mark when Brandão had an effort saved.

Shutkov kept out a header from Marco Streller — a replacement for Tomasson — late on, before Shakhtar capped their performance with a second goal, when another substitute, Marica, struck with two minutes remaining after good work from Anatoliy Tymoschuk.

Viduka double downs Dnipro

By Andrew Haslam

(UEFA)—Mark Viduka scored a swift double early in the second half to add to Yakubu Ayegbeni's first-half strike and help Middlesbrough FC record a second successive victory in UEFA Cup Group D at the expense of FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk, Nov. 3.

The home side initially struggled to break down a disciplined Dnipro defence, but never looked back after Yakubu opened the scoring following an incisive move shortly before the interval. Viduka made certain of the points in the early stages of the second period, doubling the lead with a powerful strike and then sweeping in a third moments later.

Middlesbrough manager Steve McClaren kept faith with the 3-5-2 formation that had proved so effective in the Oct. 29 4-1 defeat of Manchester United FC although he opted to introduce Doriva, James Morrison and Viduka. Dnipro coach Vadim Tishenko was able to welcome back Serhiy Nazarenko after a minor injury, although fellow midfielder Konstyantyn Kravchenko was only fit enough for the bench.

Given that the visitors kicked off without a recognised striker in their lineup, it was perhaps no surprise that Middlesbrough made the early running, Gaizka Mendieta twice and Franck Queudrue trying their luck from range. With both teams packing the midfield, space was at a premium, but the English side finally found a way through nine minutes before half-time as Yakubu cut in from the left and played a slick one-two with Mendieta before slotting a low shot past Artem Kusliy at his near post. Mendieta almost added a swift second, but this time the Dnipro goalkeeper beat out his swerving attempt.

Middlesbrough picked up where they had left off as the second half got under way, and trebled their advantage within 11 minutes. Mendieta was again involved in the second as he picked up possession on the left and, although he was tackled, the loose ball rolled to Viduka. A swift turn gave the Australian space on the edge of the area, and he duly found the top corner with a thumping shot. James Morrison then expertly controlled a high ball and, although Kusliy kept out his powerful strike, the Dnipro goalkeeper was helpless as the rebound drop perfectly for Viduka to roll into the unguarded net.

With the win assured, Middlesbrough eased off but had already done enough to secure first place in the section having defeated Grasshopper-Club on Matchday 1. The English side next travel to AZ Alkmaar on Nov. 24 when Dnipro, still without a point, face PFC Litex Lovech.

Azovmash hammer Cholet

(FIBA)—Khalid El-Amin exploded for 27 points and Ukrainian international Serhiy Lishchuk poured in 20 while also pulling down 13 rebounds as Azovmash Mariupol rolled to another EuroCup victory on Nov. 8, beating Cholet 89-60.

Azovmash outscored the French side 43-16 over the final 16 minutes en route to a comprehensive win — their second in three games in Group A.

The first quarter was a see-saw affair with neither team able to open more than a four-point lead and it ended with the Ukrainians in front at 19-18.

Azovmash twice opened seven-point leads in the second, but Wilson kept the French close at 36-33 at the half-time.

Said Bendriss scored with six minutes left in the third to pull Cholet to within 46-44, but Azovmash then took control.

They closed the quarter on a 17-5 run for a 63-49 advantage and the game was never in doubt after.

Oleksandr Skutyelnik chipped in 13 points for Azovmash, quarter-finalists in last season's FIBA Europe League.

Lamayne Wilson paced Cholet with 20 points, seven rebounds and three steals. But no other Cholet player scored in double figures. The French were held to 35% shooting from the floor compared to Azovmash's blazing 53%.

El-Amin, who joined Azovmash from Besiktas, came into the contest averaging almost 20 points a contest.

He is shaping up to be quite an acquisition for the team as they challenge for honours.

Nov. 1 El-Amin scored 21 points as Azovmash Mariupol knocked off CSU Asesoft 80-68.

The Ukrainians struggled early at home falling behind Asesoft 21-16 in the first quarter.

El-Amin and company turned things around in the second quarter, out-scoring the Romanian champions 26-15 to lay the groundwork for the victory.

The small, stocky guard dished out four assists and grabbed three rebounds and two steals to lead the Ukrainians against Asesoft.

Art Long scored 17 points and snatched nine rebounds, as did Serhiy Lishchuk for Azovmash.

Arnas Kazlauskas added 12 points for the hosts, who hit 59% of their shots from inside the three-point arc.

Asesoft was led by Serbo-Montenegrin Sasa Ocokoljic, who had 19 points but committed six turnovers.

Nigerian big man Julius Nwosu notched a double-double with 16 points-12 rebounds while Catalin Burlacu had 15 points.

Kyiv knocked off rails by Lokomotiv Rostov

(FIBA)—Lokomotiv Rostov won their third straight game in the EuroCup on Nov. 8, prevailing 68-59 over Ukrainian giants BC Kyiv in a Group G battle of unbeatens.

Rostov, who had previously overcome Telekom Baskets Bonn and Barons Riga, reeled off the last 15 points to clinch the victory against Kyiv, who reached the final of the FIBA Europe League last season and also won the Ukrainian title.

Ratko Varda's basket had given Kyiv a 59-53 lead, but international stars in the Rostov line-up took center stage and led their team on a decisive run.

Back-to-back three-pointers from Afik Nissim of Israel and Mark Dickel of New Zealand tied the contest at 59-59, and then former Louisiana State University standout Jaime Lloreda buried a jumpshot to put Lokomotiv in front for good at 61-59 with 6:40 to play.

With just under five minutes to play, Dickel fed Nissim who hit a jumper, and Dickel then stretched the advantage to 66-59 by splitting a pair of free throws and making a jump shot of his own.

A dunk from Rostov forward Nikita Kurbanov with 2:25 to play rounded off the scoring in the contest.

Andrii Lebediev, Varda and Mark Jones all missed shots from the arc in the final two minutes for Kyiv, who are clearly suffering without points scoring machine LaMarr Greer.

The explosive guard is out of action for six weeks with a leg injury.

Kyiv forward Michael Harris had a game-high 18 points.

Nov. 1 Varda collected a double-double as BC Kyiv fought back from a double-digit first-half deficit to beat Telekom Baskets Bonn 72-58 on the road.

Renato Pasquali's Kyiv side closed the game with an 18-7 run over the final nine minutes to notch their second straight victory in their campaign to return to the final of this competition.

Pasquali received 14 points and 15 rebounds from the Serbo-Montenegrin Varda while compatriot Goran Nikolic added 19 points, four rebounds and three blocked shots.

Dusan Kecman — also from Serbia & Montenegro — chipped in with 15 points, and Ukrainian Leonid Iailo had 11 rebounds for the guests.

Michael Meeks scored nine points in the first quarter as the German side jumped ahead 26-16 after one frame.

Kecman hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to trim the deficit to 10 points. Danijel Jusup's club still led 34-24 midway through the second quarter before the Ukrainians found their game with an 8-0 run.

Only Martin Mihajlovic's three-pointer just before the half-time buzzer kept Bonn ahead 37-32 after two periods.

Nikolic scored nine points in an 18-5 run out of the locker-room which gave BC Kyiv a 50-42 lead with just more than three minutes left in the third.

Andrew Wisniewski knocked down a three-pointer to pull Bonn to within 50-47 with 1:24 remaining, and Kyiv led 52-47 after three periods.

Hrvoje Perincic's three-pointer made it 54-51 with 8:47, but the Ukrainians finished off the Germans with their 18-7 run.

Wisniewski scored 17 points to pace the Germans, who shot just 37% from the floor in the game and were out-rebounded 49-26. Wisniewski also committed six turnovers.

Perinic scored 12 points — on just 5-14 three-point shooting — and a team-high six rebounds, while Meeks finished with 11 points.

Canadians capture gold after Ukrainians tumble

(Skate Canada)—After six trips to MasterCard Skate Canada, the moon and stars finally aligned for Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon on Oct. 30 in St. John's.

With an emotionally rivetting performance that brought the crowd to its feet, the veteran competitors won the elusive gold.

The three-time Canadian champions, seventh at the 2005 World Championships, were ecstatic with their victory after previously winning two silver and two bronze.

"We're finally champions at Skate Canada. This is big for us," said Dubreuil.

The overnight leaders, Elena Grushina and Ruslan Goncharov, Ukraine's world bronze medallists, both took a tumble on their serpentine footwork and knocked themselves out of contention for top spot.

The United States' representatives Melissa Gregory and Denis Petukhov took full advantage of the opportunity, placing second in the freedance finale to win their first Grand Prix medal. However, their points were not enough to move up from the bronze medal position they held coming into the final.

"This competition was not very lucky for us. We had a lot of mistakes here," said Goncharov, who performed a Near Eastern-themed program set to Peter Gabriel's *The Feeling Begins*.

Mittal Steel extends payment period for Kryvorizhstal

Business

(Ukrainian Journal)—Mittal Steel, the world's largest steelmaker, will channel US$4.8 billion for 93% in Kryvorizhstal, Ukraine's largest steel producer, within 60 days, not 30 days as had been earlier expected, the State Property Fund said Oct. 28.

The new deadline for making the payment was outlined in an agreement that had been signed between Mittal and the SPF four days after Mittal has won the auction to acquire Kryvorizhstal.

The agreement gives more time for Mittal to collect the money as it has been seeking to secure a $2.2 bln loan from Citibank to finance the purchase, analysts said.

Mittal had about $2.7 bln in its own funds as of Oct. 24 that it had intended to spend on the Kryvorizhstal purchase, according to company officials.

The new deadline also gives more room for the government and the central bank to prepare for the massive cash inflow, an issue that had been keeping forex market jittery over the past four days, analysts said.

Under the agreement, Mittal would have to channel a half of the payment, or about $2.4 bln, before Nov. 30, while another half should be delivered before Dec. 30, according to the SPF.

Although such auctions usually require the buyer to deliver the entire payment within 30 days, extending the deadline for 60 days is alleviation for the government, analysts said.

Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov has been meeting Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk and National Bank of Ukraine Governor Volodymyr Stelmkah the previous week to make sure the massive hard cash inflow doesn't appreciate the hryvnia, the local currency.

A gradual inflow of the cash should make it easier for the central bank to control the transaction and keep the value of the hryvnia unchanged, analysts said.

Mittal owner confirms interest in buying Kryviy Rih ore combine

(Ukrainian Journal)—Mittal Steel, winner of the tender for 93.02% of Ukrainian steel giant Kryvorizhstal, confirmed its interest in acquiring the incomplete Kryviy Rih Oxidized Ore Mining and Enrichment Combine, Interfax-Ukriaine reported, Oct. 28.

Lakshmi Mittal, founder and chairman of the world No. 1 steel producer, told reporters in Kyiv that his company had been expressing an interest in the Kryviy Rih complex for the last four years.

Ukraine's Inhulets and Poltavsky iron ore producers, Russia's Magnitogorsk Iron & Steel Works (MMK), Mittal Steel and are also believed to be interested in the Kryviy Rih stake.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, construction of the mining complex, which began in 1985, passed to Ukraine with a 56.4% stake in the project. Romania owns 28% and the rest belongs to Slovakia. The budgeted construction cost for the mine was $2.4 billion, of which $1.65 billion has been spent.

Dmytro Parfenenko, the State Property Fund's deputy chairman, said following the Kryvorizhstal tender, at which the government fetched a nearly $4.8 bln purchase price, that the combine would be the next enterprise in Ukraine to be privatized.

Canada's Transeuro Energy to invest in Black Sea offshore projects

(Ukrainian Journal/UkrNews)—Transeuro Energy Corp., a small Canadian oil company, will seek to expand in Ukraine by investing in oil exploration and development projects off-shore the Black Sea, the Energy and Fuel Ministry said Nov. 7.

Hal Hemmerich, Transeuro President, met Energy and Fuel Minister Ivan Plachkov on Nov. 4 to discuss investments in oil and gas fields off-shore the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, the ministry said in a statement.

"It is important to attract investments in exploration of new oil fields," Volodymyr Stasenko, deputy chief of the oil and gas production department at Naftogaz Ukrayiny, said.

Plachkov invited the Vancouver-based company to participate in a tender to invest in exploration projects South-Kerch area, the ministry said.

Transeuro, which has about $33 million in working capital, has been already involved in some Ukrainian projects, such as completing a gas treatment plant in Crimea.

It is also developing two gas condensate fields — Karlavske and Kransnopolyanske on the Crimean peninsula.

Transeuro has been in agreement with Bankers Petroleum Inc., which had committed financing of up to $15 mln a year ago, into joint oil and gas projects in Crimea.

Kroes announces new development well

(UkrNews)—Calgary-based Kroes Energy Inc. on Nov. 1 announced that development well No. 303 in the Lelyaki oilfield, Ukraine has commenced drilling and is currently at 300 meters toward a total drilled depth of approximately 2,000 meters. The well is designed to produce from the main P1 - P2 sands and will be deviated at 75 degrees from vertical through the producing horizon in order to extend the producing interval by four-fold.

Fred Callaway, President of Kroes, stated "the drilling of this well confirms the aggressive approach the Joint Venture is now taking to field development. This will be the fourth well drilled in 2005 and we expect a similar four-well program in 2006."

Meanwhile, Kroes also announced that development well No. 301 has now been placed on production in the deeper K1 zone. As announced in September, the well produced 183 barrels per day (bpd) on test (82 bpd net to Kroes).

32.8% stake in Galychyna oil refinery to be auctioned

(Ukrainian Journal)—A 32.8% stake in Ukrainian oil refinery Galychyna will be auctioned off on Dec. 15, Sokrat, a Kyiv-based brokerage, said Nov. 3, citing an agreement with owners of the stake.

The stake, at a starting price of 572 million hryvnias, or US$113 million, will be sold at the Ukrainian Interbank Currency Exchange to a bidder that will offer the highest bid, Sokrat said.

Sokrat did not disclose the name of the current owner of the stake, but analysts said it is probably Privatbank, Ukraine's largest bank by assets, who is selling the stake. Privatbank refused to comment on the sell-off.

Galychyna, the sixth biggest oil refinery out of seven operating in Ukraine, reduced oil refining by 46% on the year to 916,200 metric tons in January-September, according to the Energy and Fuel Ministry.

High prices make it more difficult for Galychyna, which mostly uses outdated equipment, to compete with other Eastern European oil refineries, analysts said.

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"Ukraine Invasion" hits Edmonton

(UkrNews)—"Ukraine Invasion" products from Multiculture Marketing Inc. were exhibited at the Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival in Edmonton, Nov. 4 and 5.

"Ukraine Invasion" products included Slava Ultra Premium Vodka, Zirkova Imported Vodka, Lvivske Premium Lager, Slavutich Premium Beer and Krimsekt Sparkling Wines — all imported from Ukraine.

"The Ukrainian invasion has hit Edmonton," said Katherine Koszarny, Director of Operations for Multiculture Marketing

"We have five quality products from Ukraine and our company has really selected the best of the best. So, our mission is to bring the best of Ukraine to the rest of the world and we're so proud of these products."

She said Slava Ultra Premium Vodka took over three years to develop. It is distilled four times and filtered 12 times. Zirkova is "a more traditional fiery Ukrainian vodka", while Lvivske Lager "the jewel of Ukraine" has been brewed for 290 years and its brewery was designated as a state museum last year. Krimsekt is comparable to champagnes from France, but costs only half as much, Koszarny added.

"We're very excited to be here... because we know about Edmonton's demographics," she told Ukrainian News.

"Edmonton is the most Ukrainian city in the world outside of Ukraine. And we know this and we're honoured to be here."

Koszarny said she met many people of Ukrainian origin at the exhibit who discovered the products for the first time.

The Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival has become one of the largest wine and food events in Canada. There were 130 vendors in Edmonton and 170 in Calgary last month.

Left to Right: Katherine Koszarny, Jake Pelletier and Daria Hantzsch at the "Ukrainian Invasion" booth at the Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival.

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UkrGazVydobuvannya starts natural gas extraction at Lviv region site

(Ukrainian Journal)—UkrGazVydobuvannya, Ukraine's largest natural gas producer, started gas extraction at Vereshchytske gas field in the Lviv region, the company said in a statement Nov. 4.

UGV is currently producing about 36,500 cubic meters of natural gas per day from the field, which would allow the company to extract additional 2.2 million cubic meters of gas by the end of the year, according to the statement.

The Vereshchytske gas field was discovered about six years ago. The most natural gas deposits at the field located at the depth of between to 1,300 and 1,500 meters, the company said. UGV did not disclose the field's estimated deposits.

The company also continues development of Ukraine's largest Kobzivske gas and condensate field in the Kharkiv region, which was discovered in 2002.

UGV completed drilling of two new wells at the field that are expecting to boost to company's gas output by 100-mil cu m annually. The field's total deposits are estimated at more than 56bcm of gas at the depth of 6,300 meters.

The company operates a total of eight wells at the field, but plans to complete drilling of another four wells in the near future. The company believes Kobzivske field is the most promising among other Ukrainian onshore fields to increase domestic extraction of natural gas.

UGV, which operates more than 110 gas fields in Ukraine, produces about 75% of the country's total natural gas output. The company produced 10.9bcm of natural gas in January-September, up 1.6% on the year.

Ukraine's national oil and gas company Naftogaz Ukrayiny owns 100% stake in the company. UGV plans to increase natural gas output to 14.6bcm in 2005, up from 14.37bcm produced in 2004.

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South Africa	29¢
Vietnam	58¢

DIALING INSTRUCTIONS

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ADVANTAGES

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Industrial output increases by 2.4% in October

(Ukrainian Journal)—Ukraine's industrial output increased 2.4% on the year in October, compared with 0.9% in September, showing early signs of stabilization in the sector that had been disappointing the government for a year.

The cumulative industrial output increase has slowed down to 3.1% on the year in January-October, compared with 3.2% in January-September, according to the State Statistics Committee report. It suggests the government will probably miss its 2005 forecast.

"A miracle is required to meet the government's forecast this year," a Kiev-based economist said Nov. 8.

The government has been expecting industrial output to increase between 6% and 7% on the year in 2005, compared with 12.5% increase reported in 2004.

The slower increase in industrial output, one of the key components in the economic growth statistics, will add negative sentiment to expectations whether the government will meet its economic growth forecast in 2005.

"It doesn't look like a sustainable growth at all," the economist said.

The industrial output has been suffering from talk of the re-privatization by the government of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko earlier this year, which had led to the decrease in investments.

Another reason was exceptionally weak performance by the steel sector, the backbone of Ukraine's economy, which had declined 2.4% on the year in January-October, the committee said. The decline in the steel sector was blamed on walling steel prices on world markets, which had forced many companies to shut down capacities in June, analysts sad.